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U.S. court protects some students,
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Of a different kind;
WMC needs help for Pride.
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Gone but not forgotten
The late James Broughton
left a rich film legacy.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 21 • 27 May 1999

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Pretty in pink

Volunteers turned out in force for the pink triangle painting party last Saturday, May 22, organized by Friends of the Pink Triangle. One of the event planners, Patrick Carney (foreground), demonstrated the proper rolling technique while others cheerfully spread paint. Once volunteers install it on a prominent Corona Heights hillside on June 26, the banner will be visible far down Market Street during Pride weekend. The symbol, a reminder of Nazi persecution, was originally reclaimed by gay liberation activists to encourage people to come out and fight for equal rights. For more info, call (415) 247-1142 or (415) 929-0250.

Jane Philomen Deland

GHB deaths keep cops on the trail of a dangerous drug

Woman dies after leaving SF nightclub

by Mark Norby

Overdoses of the party drug gamma hydroxy butyrate acid (GHB) continue to take lives in San Francisco, and the most recent fatality has prompted police investigators to redouble efforts to alert the public of its dangers. The most recent death occurred in April, after a woman consumed a combination of GHB and alcohol, reportedly in a South of Market area nightclub.

The death of 22-year-old Skylar Ringland was confirmed by the district attorney's office and by the city medical examiner two days after Ringland's April 4 death, but the cause of death was only confirmed by toxicology reports, which take up to six weeks to process and were released Friday, May 14.

The medical examiner's report states that Ringland's body contained a high level of alcohol and GHB and that she voluntarily or unknowingly ingested the drug.

Investigative reports, relying on information provided by friends close to the victim, state that Ringland ingested the drug at either Minna Street Gallery or at the End Up.

The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) is continuing to investigate Ringland's death, due to speculation over the nature of the overdose and the possibility of foul play.

"Investigators have been interviewing Skylar's friends," Medical Examiner Dr.



Christopher Woodcock

Skylar Ringland

Boyd Stevens told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "and she most likely consumed GHB on her own, and followed that by drinking shots of tequila. We're very concerned about these types of deaths because those who take GHB don't know its dangers and the risks involved when alcohol is involved."

However, Kristine Blunck, Ringland's roommate, reports that Ringland may have unwittingly ingested GHB after someone else put the odorless and colorless drug into her drink.

"Skylar definitely had to have GHB put into her drink," Blunck stated. "I know she wouldn't take alcohol and GHB together. What I want to tell people now is that if you take this drug, you have to drink water, a lot of water, otherwise it's so dangerous you can die."

"I know from experience that you cannot let people go to sleep if they take this drug."

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It's official: Stress gives HIVers AIDS

by Lori Valigra,
UPI Science News

Men with HIV will progress much more quickly to AIDS if they are stressed and have little social support, a new study by University of North Carolina scientists says.

In a study spanning five-and-one-half years, passage to AIDS status was two to three times higher for HIV-infected men with more than average stress or with less than average support from their family or friends. The study appears in the June issue of *Psychosomatic Medicine*.

"This is perhaps among the most compelling evidence to date linking psychosocial variables with HIV progression," said Jane Leserman, lead author of the study and research associate professor of psychiatry at the University of North Carolina.

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Activities abound for Latino/a LGBTs

by Cynthia Laird

The past year has been rocky for the Bay Area Latino/a gay and lesbian community, exemplified by the abrupt closure of *Vida y Movimiento*, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's former program for Spanish-speaking clients. As the community struggled to compensate for the loss of that program, it was also beset by other problems: Hurricane Mitch affected many friends and relatives in Central America; gay Latino candidate Victor Marquez narrowly lost his bid to become a San Francisco supervisor; and the gay community struggled over the possible racism in the name of the annual Trannyshack event "Wetback Night."

Still, not all the news was bad. Latina lesbian Susan Leal moved from the Board of Supervisors and was sworn in as the city's treasurer; AT&T and Academy of Friends provided \$15,000 to Dolores Street Community Services to provide HIV education services to homeless Latinos in San Francisco; and two new political clubs for gay Latino/a Democrats were launched, *Ambiente Latino* Democratic Club and the *Queer Latino Political Action Committee*.

Now, with pride month less than a week away, a host of queer Latino/a events throughout the Bay Area will give the community a chance to assess their gains and losses. From a celebratory dinner in San Jose this Friday, May 28, to the start of the ninth annual Queer Latino/a Festival in San Francisco beginning this Tuesday, June 1, the coming weeks also offer an array of visual arts, performance, and other events.

Pro-Latino de San José, a support group for gay Latino men, will celebrate seven outstanding years of commitment and service to the South Bay Latino gay community with a celebration dinner this Friday. The banquet begins at 7 p.m. at the Hyatt Saint Claire, 302 South Market Street, followed by the coronation of Sr. and Srta. *Pro-Latino*. Sydney Levy, research and advocacy director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, will be the keynote speaker. The Folklorico *Pro-Latino* Dance Company will provide entertainment.

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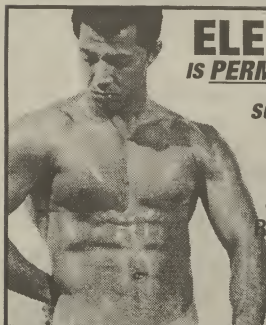
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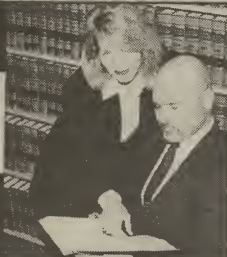
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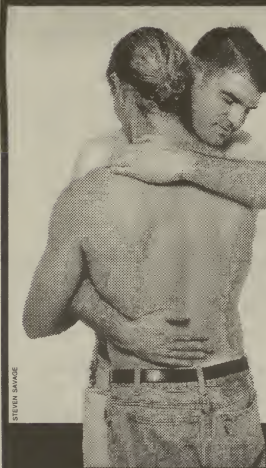
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NATIONAL LIFE

Gays angry at morning paper's practices

by Cynthia Laird

First, one of San Francisco's daily newspapers printed two front page stories about gay men without including the last names of men who talked frankly about their sex lives; then on Monday, May 24, the *San Francisco Chronicle* published a guest opinion piece by San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) Executive Director Pat Christen, where she talked about the need for gay men to communicate. That was enough to send a handful of activists to the Mission Street offices of the *Chronicle* Tuesday, May 25 to demand a meeting with top editors about how the newspaper covers gay men and HIV/AIDS.

The activists are steamed that Christen claimed a pervasive silence about HIV exists in the gay community, especially among sexually active gays. [See "The silence must be broken," page 6 of this Bay Area Reporter]. They said they were particularly upset that Christen referred to "our community," when she is a heterosexual HIV-negative resident of the East Bay, and that she did not cite any scientific research to back up her statements.

"What is behind these accusations of gay male silence around HIV? We have been talking about AIDS for nearly two decades now and we know how to protect ourselves," said ACT UP/San Francisco's David Pasquarelli.

"Why won't the *Chronicle* start being honest about gay male sex?" asked activist Michael Petrelis, one of those who marched into the newspaper's office, sending the security guard scrambling for her telephone to call someone upstairs.

"I don't like my picture taken," the security guard said as a photographer snapped away.

"We didn't like yesterday's op-ed piece," Petrelis retorted, as he was handed the phone to talk with someone.

"I'd like to meet with Lois Kazakoff regarding yesterday's of-



A group of gay men took their editorial gripes directly to the *San Francisco Chronicle's* front office on Tuesday, May 25.

fensive op-ed piece by Pat Christen," Petrelis said into the phone. Kazakoff is the open forum editor.

Kazakoff and Editor William German were apparently at lunch when the group arrived shortly after noon, but John Curley, assistant managing editor for news, did come down to the reception area a few minutes later to talk with Petrelis and ACT UP/San Francisco members Pasquarelli and Ronnie Burk.

Pasquarelli told Curley he is angry the *Chronicle* isn't covering what he termed "corruption" within AIDS organizations, and gave Curley a copy of last week's *Bay Area Reporter* with a front page article detailing the latest salary increases Christen and other top administrators at SFAF received. Petrelis gave out copies of the SFAF's latest 990 tax forms, which were released last week.

Petrelis then zeroed in on news stories by *Chronicle* staff writers Sabin Russell and Elaine Herscher earlier this year about gay men and their sex lives, neither of which used the last names of the men quoted in the stories but identified "experts" with their full names and titles, including SFAF staff members. Russell's article, in

particular, was sensational and headlined "Russian Roulette Sex Parties, Rise in gay fringe group's unsafe practices alarms AIDS experts."

"In 1999, in San Francisco, you can't find gay men with last names?" Petrelis asked Curley.

"You have a good point," Curley replied.

"What gay people review these stories?" asked Pasquarelli.

"I can't say," Curley said.

Petrelis then asked why the *Chronicle* has not done a story on the recently announced federal audit of AIDS programs across the country. Curley said he didn't have a good answer but that the paper is trying to address issues of fairness. At one point, Curley said he wasn't the right person the group should talk to.

"You're the only person [here] right now," Pasquarelli said.

Outside, as newspaper employees entered and left the building, Petrelis was asking why gay men aren't writing op-ed pieces for the paper. He also said the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) has been alerted to the articles in the *Chronicle* and asked to evaluate the situation. ▼

'Pink petition' drive for bathhouses launched

by Liz Highleyman

On Thursday, May 20, activists launched a signature-gathering drive for a bathhouse initiative they hope to put on the November ballot. Proponents must gather 10,500 valid signatures by July 5 to have the referendum included on the ballot.

The initiative, officially known as "STD Reduction Initiative Non-Discrimination Policy" calls on the city to enforce laws related to public sex venues equally without regard to gender, sexual orientation, or other factors.

The proposal is sponsored by the Magnus Hirschfeld Society, a new group dedicated to promoting sexual liberation. Hirschfeld was a German sexologist who in the late 19th century formed the first homosexual rights organization and was one of the first to speak out publicly in favor of civil rights for homosexuals. Hirschfeld's organization gathered

signatures on petitions to repeal the German anti-sodomy law.

According to Michael Petrelis, who filed the initiative with the Department of Elections on May 10, "Hopefully, open-minded voters will put their John Hancocks on the stylish pink petitions. Signing the pink petition equals affixing one's signature to a declaration of sexual independence from Willie Brown's sex police."

Proponents of the ballot initiative have adopted the slogan "Open Baths, Open Minds," and hope to capitalize on San Francisco's tradition of sexual liberation, which encompasses the annual Hooker's Ball and Folsom Street Fair, as well as the Beatniks and the Summer of Love. Said Petrelis, "Surely, we can find room in our civic heart to allow a modicum of privacy to gay men to safely love each other behind the closed doors of a public bathhouse."

During Thursday's signature drive launch, initiative proponents played music by Bette Mi-

lder and Barry Manilow — to remind onlookers that these entertainers got their start performing in bathhouses — and displayed safer sex kits containing a clean towel, penile and internal condoms, lubricant, and written material.

Petrelis said that Thursday and throughout the weekend nearly 700 signatures were gathered and 20 new voters were registered. ▼

The city's HIV Prevention Planning Council will address the subject of bathhouses and privacy next Thursday, June 3 at Mission High School, located at 3750 18th Street. The community meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium. Speakers will include bathhouse supporters and Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the Department of Public Health. All are welcome. For information, call (415) 554-9131.

From Market to Harvey Milk?



In an effort to further honor the memory of San Francisco's first openly gay Supervisor, Ryan Flores (left) enticed passersby at 18th and Castro to sign a petition calling for the renaming of upper Market St., from Octavia to Castro, as Harvey Milk Street. Flores and others with the Castro Citizens Congress will continue soliciting signatures until they have the 10,500 needed by July 5 to put the matter before the voters as a local ballot measure.

Halloween attack cabbie drives again

by Mark Norby

The May 14 death of Julie Christine Day, allegedly by a Town Taxi, Inc. cab driver has spurred San Francisco Supervisors Gavin Newsom and Leslie Katz to call for new safety implementations on taxicabs across the city. Their response, however, came too late in light of last Halloween's alleged attack on a San Francisco gay man by a driver for the Yellow Cab Company. The driver has twice been fired for an attack on a passenger and pedestrian, but once again is driving for a local cab company.

In the Halloween night incident, Rick Raymen of San Francisco had just finished his shift at the 1100 Club on Polk Street and hailed a cab to take him home. After a harrowing ride across town by Yellow Cab driver Anthony Quinley, Raymen exited the cab in fear and then was brutally beaten by Quinley because Raymen is gay.

Raymen's attorney in the case, Brian Ripley, told the *Bay Area Reporter* May 12 that Quinley is once again behind the wheel for Luxor Cab Company. The news of Quinley's new position at Luxor was discovered when Raymen, again hailing a cab after his shift at the 1100 Club the evening of May 11, nearly entered taxi no. 1050, driven by Quinley.

The Halloween incident was reported to police and Quinley was booked for assault and battery. Raymen reported the incident as assault, battery, and anti-gay hate crime, but police booked only the assault and battery charges. The hearing in a San Francisco court was held December 4, but Quinley did not appear. Subsequently, a bench warrant was issued for Quinley's arrest.

Scared of SF taxis

"I freaked out when I looked into the cab and saw Quinley behind the wheel," Raymen told the *B.A.R.* "I couldn't believe it. I knew that if I got into the cab that he would kill me. I'm now totally scared of San Francisco taxis."

After Quinley had been booked for assault and battery charges in the Halloween incident, Quinley appeared at Raymen's San Francisco apartment a week later asking Raymen to help him get his job back at Yellow

Cab. "I knew at that time that if I had opened the security gate to my apartment building that Quinley would probably beat me again. I told him to go away and put a block on my phone line and phoned my attorney to file a restraining order," Raymen said.

Before the block on his phone line went into effect, Raymen received anonymous threatening calls telling him "I'm going to get you, faggot," and "You little faggot." Raymen suspected that the calls came from friends of Quinley.

A history of assault

Quinley was fired from De Soto Cab Company four months prior to the assault on Raymen. Quinley's firing from De Soto resulted from an alleged attack committed on a San Francisco pedestrian. "The guy has a record of assault," a De Soto dispatcher told the *B.A.R.* "He was fired from De Soto for attacking a passenger while he was driving for us."

Quinley also was fired from Yellow Cab approximately one week after the assault on Raymen. Yellow Cab declined to comment on Quinley's firing, or on their process of running background checks. Now that he is driving for Luxor, the question of background checks is an issue both Luxor and the Board of Supervisors will have to address.

"Bill Lazar, the owner of Luxor Cab, had no knowledge of these prior incidents," Newsom's assistant Heidi Machen told the *B.A.R.* May 19, a week after Newsom's office was informed by this writer that Quinley is driving for Luxor. "He's pretty interested in firing this guy if the allegations are true. He said he's running further background checks and said he's very appreciative to receive this information."

Commenting on the murder of Day, in a May 25 article of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Newsom is quoted saying "We go through pretty exhaustive background checks on driver applicants. There was nothing we could have done in this case. ... There was no indication that something like this could happen."

Ripley is not convinced that the current background check procedure is effective in providing information on a driver's previous history. "It's unbelievable that he's driving again," Ripley said. "The city's not doing its job and Rick

[Raymen] shouldn't have to be confronted with this problem all over again. Quinley shouldn't be allowed to drive a cab and these prior incidents are proof of that."

Newsom further stated that the Day slaying appeared to be an aberration. If the cabbie is charged and convicted in the death of Day, the case would be the second taxi driver-committed homicide in San Francisco since 1994. Six cab drivers have been killed on the job since 1990. ▼

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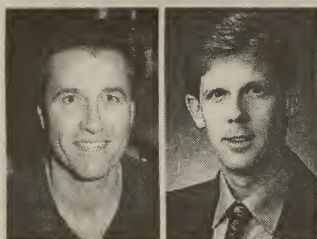
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SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1981

Queer shelter a success

...but where do the kids go now?

by Cynthia Laird

While admitting there's nowhere for queer homeless youth to go right now, San Francisco Supervisors Leslie Katz and Mark Leno praised the temporary queer youth shelter that operated earlier this year in the auditorium at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center (EVRC) for about two months. The emergency shelter ended May 16 but the permanent youth shelter that will include services for queer youth is not expected to be up and running for several months, Katz said at a news conference last Thursday, May 20.

Asked why the shelter wasn't simply continued until the permanent site opens, particularly if the shelter was operating successfully, Katz said the city "honored our commitment" with concerned neighbors and some merchants by agreeing to end the temporary shelter by mid-May.

"Although the shelter was very successful, the success is marked with some sadness that we're not able to provide services in a seamless fashion," Katz said. The temporary shelter cost the city approximately \$75,000, and the capacity was 30 people per night. "We didn't claim we could solve the problem," added Leno, who personally visited shelter clients almost every night. "It's amazing what we could accomplish. We haven't solved the problem, but we've addressed it."

Daniel Patterson, a client at the shelter, was one of the shelter's success stories; he obtained a bicycle with the help of Mission Station police Captain Greg Suhr and as a result, got a job as a bike messenger. On the downside, Patterson confirmed that many of the youth who stayed at the shelter are now squatters because there is nowhere for them to go. "Fifteen of the people are squatting now, who would have been at the shelter," Patterson said.

There were 157 unduplicated clients served during the 10 weeks the nighttime shelter was open, according to Joe Goodfield, shel-

ter director with the Ark of Refuge. Eight people were turned away because there was not enough room on the nights they showed up, and four were over the age limit, Goodfield added. Youth between the ages of 18 and 23 were served at the shelter.

Goodfield provided information on many successes for some of the clients who utilized the shelter. Of the youth who stayed there, 16 started new jobs, 10 found transitional housing, one completed an educational plan, three enrolled in youth housing programs, four enrolled in education programs, six addressed medical issues, and eight re-established contact with their families.

Contracts for services

Eric Politzer, with Ark of Refuge, explained that some of the youth signed seven- or 14-day contracts to secure beds on a long-term basis. In order to meet those contracts, the youth had to follow through on accessing a variety of services, from getting a driver's license to getting tested for HIV to finding a job. "A good number of the clients were one- or two-night drop-ins," he said, adding the shelter ran at about 90 percent capacity much of the time.

Politzer said the success of the shelter showed once again that people in the Castro do care. Concerns that were initially raised were understandable, he added, and they were addressed. "It truly was a collaborative effort," he said.

Volunteers from Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco (MCC-SF) provided evening and morning meals for the youth, and mobile assistance vans were available to take the young people to the McMillon Drop-In Center or Multi-Service Center North so they could take showers or access services. Katz praised the community's response to the temporary shelter, including MCC-SF and merchants such as bar owner Morgan Gorrono who donated items for the young people.

The shelter operation did not disturb any EVRC programs, Katz said. Controversy over the

temporary shelter in the Castro erupted at a February Merchants of Upper Market and Castro (MUMC) meeting, when some merchants and many parents of children who attend nearby Live Oak School raised concerns. Last week, Brian Cheu, LYRIC executive director, said that meetings set up with officials at the private school were canceled at the principal's request.

"It was a great success and I can honestly say I did not receive one phone call and even I didn't expect that," Cheu said.

Officer Jane Warner, with the San Francisco Patrol Special Police, provided increased patrols in the area while the shelter was operating and gave her pager number to neighbors. She reported that she received only two complaint calls; one involved a fight among LYRIC participants, while the other call was from a man who reported a person asleep in his doorway. The age of that person was not known.

"There was actually a decrease in calls to the area," Warner said.

Katz added that the young people staying at the shelter "were well aware of the controversy" surrounding the issue.

The Reverend Penny Nixon with MCC-SF talked about the "amazing community support" for the shelter and helping the youth. "That over 80 volunteers stepped up in the community continues to amaze me," she said. "People came from Richmond on public transportation at 6:30 a.m. to serve breakfast."

Now what?

The success of the temporary shelter isn't lost on some local activists. While they praised the services that were offered, some wondered why the shelter isn't continuing to operate since there were few complaints and the permanent shelter isn't open yet. Indeed, Larkin Street Youth Center, which was awarded the contract several months ago, has yet to finalize a location for the permanent youth shelter. Once open, the shelter will serve between 30 and 40 young people and have services

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Leno to hold hearing on beer busts Thurs.

by Mark Norby

Since the heat descended on gay bars around the city concerning the legality of beer busts and beer benefits, city officials have joined bar owners in questioning the motives of the state Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) agency in preventing the charitable events. Supervisor Mark Leno is leading the calls for the ABC to repeal its measure to ban the events, and has called a hearing on the issue in the committee room at City Hall Thursday, June 3 at 10 a.m.

The ABC's action to stop gay bars from holding beer busts and benefits originally occurred November 19 after authorities of the agency entered the Lone Star Saloon. Management at the Lone Star was informed that the events are "unlicensed" and that they would not be allowed due to the perceived notion "that they promote an uncontrolled amount of

alcohol to be outgoing from the bar," according to ABC District Administrator Michael Tyrell.

Leno's hearing endeavors to generate community support and alert the ABC that it needs to address the issue in a more effective, complete manner. "It smacks of harassment," Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "when gay bars are hit unfairly by a vague state policy. I'm determined to make sure the state isn't acting in a discriminatory way. Targeting beer busts is a new interpretation of a vague ABC policy already in existence which states you cannot serve uncontrolled amounts of alcohol."

Leno referred to the fact that many fundraisers and charitable events charge an admission price and provide an open bar. Consequently, just as at a beer bust, persons are not paying a per-drink charge. However, these events have apparently not been challenged. The supervisor points out that local bar owners have been holding beer busts for years. Bar

owners claim that ABC is now interpreting a pre-existing policy to the detriment of AIDS service organizations (ASOs).

"Our ASOs are a cherished part of our community. We need to protect - even promote - events that help fund them. The beer bust itself has become an important mechanism for our community to show its support of people with HIV/AIDS," Leno concluded.

In addition to the June 3 hearing, attorney Jeffrey Gibson filed an accusation and opposition to ABC's charges against the Lone Star. Gibson has been representing the Lone Star and owner Kevin Owens since the ABC charges, and the charges will be addressed at a June 25 hearing in San Francisco between Gibson and the Lone Star, and ABC officers.

Leno's hearing will bring together bar owners, ASO representatives, and organizers of beer busts and benefits. The hearing is open to the public. ▼

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(Two Spirit Peoples are Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgendered People of American Indian Ancestry)

For information about the Gathering contact Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits at 415-282-4176 fax 415-522-2470 or write to BAITS
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email at bayareatwospirit@hotmail.com http://www.geo.to/bayareatwospirit

Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits meets weekly at MCC Church
San Francisco, 18th and Eureka Mondays at 6:30 PM

Produced with a grant from the Native American Cultural Center
Illustration: Dance of the Beadache by George Catlin ca. 1830

Transsexual denied chance to be cop files \$4 million suit

by Mark Mardon

More than a year after receiving front-page newspaper coverage over her fight to join the San Francisco Police Department as a police officer, Cristiana D. Rivas has sued the city, alleging discrimination in hiring because of her gender identity.

As stated in the complaint filed on behalf of Rivas in the San Francisco Superior Court on May 19 by her attorney, David K. Yamakawa, Jr., Rivas affirms she "is a woman who was formerly a man." Rivas, the former Christian D. Rivas, believes the city based its decision not to hire her on that fact alone.

Rivas was removed from consideration as a police officer last May, when she was officially removed from the "E-107 Q-2 Police Officer Civil Service List" after she failed to pass the police department's required psychological examination. To prove the examination was biased, Rivas submitted to an independent examination, which she says she easily passed.

Rivas contends that she not only lost a chance at a rewarding career because of the city's action, she also "has suffered humiliation



Cristiana D. Rivas

and embarrassment."

Among the slights she endured were being subjected to psychological evaluations by people who seemed out of their depth when dealing with transsexuals. Rivas claims one supposedly neutral psychologist, contracted by the city to test her again after she failed the department's own psychological test, first asked her to "explain the difference between a cross-dresser and transsexual," then said, "I know you want to be a police officer, so don't take this wrong, but why don't you go into cosmetics?"

That same examiner, according to Rivas, said, "I see you take time with your hair and makeup, and you're very feminine, but when I test you, you test the opposite, very action-oriented."

Rivas replied that she "thought the theory he was subscribing to was out date." Nonetheless, the independent examiner sustained the department's original decision.

Rivas subsequently filed a discrimination complaint with the city's Civil Service Commission, which forwarded the matter to the city's human resources director for review and action. In January of this year, Human Resources Director Andrea R. Gourdine acknowledged that Rivas is "a member of a protected group, as you are transsexual," and was indeed subjected to "an adverse employment action," nevertheless Rivas was not alone in being denied employment. Two other applicants in the same period were also disqualified because they failed the psychological examination.

On Tuesday, Rivas told the *Bay Area Reporter* she is seeking \$4 million in damages, although the formal written complaint specifies no monetary figure, seeking to re-

page 27 ►

HIV+ employee sues crusty bread company

by Dennis Conkin

The awful taste of AIDS discrimination has been added to the world-famous sourdough starter at San Francisco's Boudin Bakery, according to a lawsuit filed by a former worker.

Robert Brunson, Jr. filed the suit after he was summarily fired in 1996 by the Chicago, Illinois corporation that operates the Bay Area bakery and its retail stores and cafes.

Brunson alleges in the lawsuit that he was abruptly terminated after he returned from a period of HIV-related authorized sick leave.

According to attorney Julian Lastowski, who represents Brunson, Brunson was hired as a management trainee by Boudin, did "extremely well," and was placed in charge of one of the bakery's retail outlets. Brunson was later assigned to manage Boudin's Tiburon store.

The night before the Tiburon site was to have its grand opening, Brunson fell ill with rectal bleeding from an anal fissure – and despite the seriousness of the condition, made it in to work.

"He wasn't doing very well," Lastowski told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

He said that Brunson made an appointment with his physician and made it into work, but was not allowed to leave in time to keep his scheduled doctor's appointment.

Brunson finally was released to see his physician, had the fissure

repaired, and was told not to return to work for a 10-day period.

He supplied the bakery with a work release letter from his physician – associated with Dr. Marcus Conant's HIV medical services practice.

Lastowski said that Brunson's problems began when Boudin received the no-work note from the worker's physician – and that the bakery's human resource person illegally tried to violate Brunson's medical privacy by contacting the medical group to find out the nature of Brunson's condition.

"When he came back to work, he walked in the door and was terminated," Lastowski said. "There was no warning."

He says that the reasons Boudin gave for firing the worker – "failure to comply with the company's tardiness policy" was spurious because Brunson had a medical emergency and a doctor's note.

Lastowski says that the termination was illegal and discriminatory, despite Boudin's claims that Brunson was an "at will" worker and could be dismissed for any reason.

Brunson's case has been bolstered by a ruling from the California State Fair Employment and Housing Agency that he has a right to sue over the incident. It is against state and federal workplace protections to fire a worker because of their HIV status or sexual orientation.

Brunson is demanding a jury trial in the case. Boudin's attorneys were not available for comment at press time. ▼

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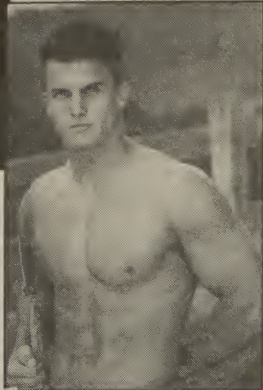


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O Canada!

Sometimes we are amazed at where and how the world changes. This week a curious invitation arrived from a building company in Denzlingen, Germany, urging us to come to a presentation in Birmingham (England, not Alabama), where we could get the details on a proposed new gay community in Nova Scotia, Canada. As we looked over the invitation in our San Francisco offices – a city that not only doesn't have a wholly gay community (no, the Castro is *not* one, as proven by the recent debate over whether naked dolls in a store window violated community standards of decency) but which also doesn't have a gay bathhouse or a full-time lesbian bar – our city's title of "gay Mecca" began to feel a little less applicable.

Of course, the project in Nova Scotia – tentatively called "Rainbow Village" – is not the first such proposal ever floated, but a couple of rulings in the Canadian courts make its future very promising. Last Thursday that country's Supreme Court determined that spouses do not have to be of opposite genders, which is an unprecedented ruling in this hemisphere.

When will the courts in our nation's capital follow suit? Not soon enough, surely. And even if it happened tomorrow, as unlikely as that is, it would be too late to ease the considerable pain suffered by thousands of gays and lesbians who have already seen their relationships disregarded by jurists. Virtually everyone who has lived through the terrifying early days of the AIDS epidemic knows at least one horror story involving someone who was denied permission to be at a dying lover's side in a hospital; those are sometimes augmented by equally horrifying tales of returning from a lover's funeral to find an apartment stripped bare by biological "families" who refuse to accept the true nature of the relationship.

State Senator Pete Knight, who is promoting the so-called "California Defense of Marriage Act" – no, strike that: he is promoting himself, using CalDOMA as his calling card – has spoken out repeatedly against any legal protection that would end those horrors. Most recently, as a domestic partner bill passed from the Senate to the

Assembly, Knight kvetched that the legislation was unnecessary because protections were already available. We know from experience that Knight is misinformed, and that the legislation is necessary.

We also know that he is wrong to claim that marriage is somehow undermined by domestic partnerships. Our heterosexual friends do not need our subjugation to wed each other. Any marriage that is based on an unequal status for gays and lesbians would be a shaky union, indeed. Most people know that, and it's time for Knight to wake up to it.

Now the domestic partner bill faces an uncertain future in the Assembly. Is it asking too much to suggest that California legislators learn something about equality from our neighbors from the north? We haven't paid a down payment on Rainbow Village yet, but it has piqued our in-

terest. Not since the days of the Vietnam war has a life in Canada seemed so attractive.

On a completely different note, we encourage people to read the guest opinion below, reprinted from Monday's *Chronicle*, and think about its premise. Is the gay community silent about HIV infection? Do we have a tough time bringing up the issue?

Some people have called us to say that is not the case, and have suggested that the San Francisco AIDS

Foundation is avoiding real responsibilities while it attempts to measure silence, which is an unmeasurable quantity. Whatever your feelings about it, we suggest a good place to begin breaking the silence is at the foundation board meeting tonight (Thursday, May 27), beginning at 5:30 at its offices at 995 Market at Sixth Street. We hope to see you there. ▼



Editorial



The silence must be broken

Gay men need to overcome fear of discussing status

by Pat Christen, executive
director of the San Francisco
AIDS Foundation

The San Francisco *Chronicle* took an important step in opening debate on an extremely sensitive topic last month when it ran a front-page story headlined "It's the Silence That's Most Dangerous." The article, written by staff writer Elaine Herscher, explored sexual risk-taking among uninfected and HIV-positive gay men.

Our ability as a community to stop the spread of HIV depends, in part, on our ability to break the silence surrounding our own HIV status and that of our sexual partners. For the individual, however, this is very frightening to contemplate: Breaking this silence means risking personal rejection and loss of intimacy. As a community, it means providing our enemies with ammunition.

The truth, however, is that we must break this silence to protect our community. Regardless of our HIV status, it is a silence in which we have all participated, in one form or another. The silence in not knowing the HIV status of one's partner is the same silence that leads to unwanted pregnancies in heterosexual relationships. It is the silence of the fragile and flawed human beings that we all are.

Research conducted at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation shows this silence is shared alike by people with HIV and those not infected. It is partly driven by fear of rejection and it promotes assumptions by both partners that can lead to disastrous

consequences.

For example, in a particular sexual situation, the internal voice of one of the partners might whisper: "I know I am HIV-positive. My partner must be HIV-positive too because he wants to have unprotected sex, and he would not want to do that unless he were already positive." Simultaneously, a monologue is taking place in his uninfected partner's mind, namely: "I know I don't have HIV. Obviously, my partner isn't infected because he would never agree to having unprotected sex with me if he were positive."

Some will say these men are foolish. Some will say that gay men can't be trusted to have sex responsibly. Still others will say this is an extreme example and rarely occurs. I must disagree with all of those perspectives.

These men are not foolish; they are human. Gay men have acted very responsibly to slow the spread of HIV. The incidence of new infections is down in San Francisco from 8,000 a year in the early '80s to 500 a year today. This is a remarkable and unprecedented achievement. But we must do better.

Regardless of sexual orientation, Americans are uncomfortable talking about issues of intimacy. It should not surprise us, then, that men having sex with other men are going to find themselves in situations where there is no explicit discussion of HIV status. This is no different from a heterosexual couple having sex without having discussed

birth control.

If we want to guarantee that the AIDS epidemic will continue, then we should judge these men harshly and place responsibility unequally among those who are HIV-positive and those who are uninfected. If we want, instead, to find a way to end the pandemic and suffering caused by HIV, then we need to face our fear of disclosure, our silence, and our assumptions together.

More than 15 years ago, out of pride, passion, and fear, San Francisco broke the deadly silence around AIDS. It gave voice to the need for national attention and compassion to end the epidemic. It was a breathtaking commitment to life.

It is again time to break the silence around HIV. Yet now it is not the silence of others we must challenge but our own. Are we brave enough to hold ourselves accountable for our behavior? Are we brave enough to shoulder the wrath of the ignorant and the cruel who will seek to destroy us with our own words? Most of all, are we brave enough to love ourselves enough to break this silence? I believe we are.

This leaves me with only one fear undressed – that the silence will continue, and more people will become needlessly infected with HIV. And that is a fear we cannot abide. ▼



Guest Opinion

Reprinted from the San Francisco
Chronicle by permission of the San
Francisco AIDS Foundation.

LETTERS

Raise raises questions

We are Movement Coalition for AIDS Awareness (MCFAA), formed in 1990 to come together in three common commitments:

1. To educate: to increase audience awareness of the realities of AIDS in our community through dance as well as art.

2. To lend support to artists who are affected by the disease.

3. To raise funds through performances and art projects as a benefit for appropriate community organizations.

MCFAA interprets the emotions experienced by people affected by the disease through evolving dance and art.

MCFAA is a concerted effort of a group of devoted professionals who commit through dance and art for the unifying cause: an end to the AIDS epidemic.

We at MCFAA just read the story in the informative *Bay Area Reporter* regarding the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Executive Director Pat Christen's new pay raise ("Another year, more raises at SFAF," May 20).

One thing comes to mind: the president gets \$200,000 a year for running our country and the mayor of Oakland gets \$97,000 for running the city of Oakland but Pat Christen's annual salary is \$183,892? Who the hell is she?!!

Having stated that, why then are some of our members still on a housing wait list for subsidies after five years? Why then do people with AIDS/HIV still visit the AIDS foundation seeking crumbs while Ms. Christen has the audacity to believe that she is somehow on the same level of salary as the president or mayor?

Pat Christen, have you no shame?!!

Ms. Christen step down and hand over the position to someone who gives a damn!!!

Movement Coalition for AIDS Awareness
San Francisco

What's Australian for 'waste'?

As a recent arrival from Sydney, Australia, I read with interest your cover story on the salaries of Pat Christen and other managers at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. This is for three reasons.

First, Ms. Christen's salary is comparable to many executive directors at similar non-government AIDS organizations around the world.

Second, Ms. Christen's salary, and the salaries of other managers at the SFAF, are not, for the most part, funded by my taxes, or anyone else's. If I am disturbed by SFAF policy, or its management compensation packages, I can choose not to donate.

Third, Ms. Christen's salary, and the salaries of other managers at the SFAF, do not exist in a vacuum. Their salaries, and those of so many others, are indeed high in comparison with the majority of people who work. Many would agree with me that management salaries (particularly in the private sector) are too high in the United States, period.

But let's not confuse the issues of salaries for senior executives, the ever-widening gap between rich and poor, and the inequities of American capitalism – of which we are all a part – by singling out the salaries of Ms. Christen and her team. This does the debate, and our community, no service.

Sam Levy
San Francisco

[Editor's note: \$3.9 million of SFAF's funds were taxpayer-funded.]

A few more points on the triangle

Thank you very much for the article on the Pink Triangle painting party and for printing the goals behind its upcoming installation on Twin Peaks, June 26 and 27 ("Concentration of Camp," May 20). It is through coverage such as this that we are able to educate others to the lessons of the pink triangle and help prevent such hatred from being tolerated again.

Due to your article we had a large turnout of hard workers to help paint the canvases. We want to thank them all for their labor and invite them, and all others who wish to help in the installation, to come to the top of Twin Peaks on Saturday, June 26 at 6 a.m. For more information, volunteers may call (415) 929-0250.

Thanks to generous grants from the Castro Lions Club and from Nordstrom Department Store, we are able to enlarge the pink triangle this year. We are very thankful to Teddy Witherington of the S.F. Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Pride Celebration Committee for his continued support and for his assistance in securing Nordstrom's gift. Also, Bond Shands of the Castro Lions has been instrumental in helping the project gain support from the Lions. Thank you Castro Lions and Nordstrom.

Michael Brown, Patrick Carney, Tom Tremblay
Friends of the Pink Triangle
San Francisco

A flawless Jim

You've indeed found yourself a gem of a journalist in Jim Provenzano. From his insightful profile of tragic gay hero/baseball star Glenn Burke (whom I also wrote about for St. James' Press *Gay and Lesbian Biography* back in 1997), to the well-balanced "Wheels of Fortune" series on Pallotta TeamWorks and the AIDS Rides, he puts a much-welcome punch back between your pages, especially for those growing numbers of us disenchanted "devotees" of Pallotta.

I was one of 500 riders in the original SF-LA AIDS Ride I (1993), and one of only a handful of riders from the Bay Area. I was so taken with being a "hero" that I went to work in the first SF-based AIDS Ride office the following year as a rider-representative. Once inside, I took to looking the gift horse in the mouth, only to discover a few too many gold fillings.

Unlike some, I'm not one to begrudge Pallotta his salary, though like so many CEOs in our inequitable economic system, it is well over the top. He *did* bring big-business fundraising practices to the fore, and he has raised millions (yes, and "awareness" ... and "empowerment"). But at what cost? When I worked for AIDS Ride II, it was like a steamroller making tracks for every donor and rider anxious to make a difference. Which seems fair enough. But the already-flush SF AIDS Foundation was (and continues to be) the only organization that could afford staff salaries along with Pallotta's fee. And like former employee John Haley, I too found a suspicious indifference when I worked toward getting more services donated, which would have brought costs down and made for more acceptable percentages going directly to those in need. In short, thanks to the hubris of our "empowerment," we drove smaller, needier AIDS service providers to the back of the line.

Money (for most of us) does not come from bottomless buckets. When donors give to support AIDS Ride "heroes," they're not likely to give to anyone else.

To those devotees still defending the Rides, I would ask a few soul-searching questions, only because I've been "to the mountain" myself: Do you really want to be part of the AIDS, Inc. machine? Why not give a more precious gift than cash – like volunteering your time to an organization – and then treat yourself to your own bicycling holiday? And beware of salesmen pushing intangibles like "empowerment" and "awareness" while they fatten their bank accounts. It's "think globally, act locally," not the other way around.

For more info, see: Stuart Timmons, "Open Wide, AIDS Ride" in *POZ* (Oct., '98); Jeff Wise, "Altruism for Fun and Profit" in *The NY Times Magazine* (September 7, '97); "Wheels of Fortune" in *OUT* (Oct., '97).

Jerome Szymczak
Alameda, CA

An ad monition

Recently the *B.A.R.* ran full pages ads suggesting that HIV does not cause AIDS. We the members of ACT UP/Golden Gate could not disagree more. One need only remember the massive die-off of the late 1980s and early 1990s – a time when there were no treatments that targeted the HIV virus, to understand the terrible truth. By 1996, combination therapies using protease inhibitor molecules that interfered with HIV reproduction, caused a dramatic decline in the AIDS death toll. How can we say this more simply? If HIV is not the cause of AIDS, then why does stopping HIV reproduction slow and halt the onset of AIDS and death?

Perhaps a more relevant question is why people like David Pasquarelli and Michael Bellefontaine sell a treatment for which they require an HIV or AIDS diagnosis (so-called medical pot), and use the proceeds to tell us AIDS doesn't exist? How long must we endure the destructive and maniacal lies of a small group of people whose anger and self hate has consumed them? We advise *B.A.R.* readers not to take medical advice from people with right wing political agendas.

The membership of ACT UP/Golden Gate
San Francisco

Bath mitzva

It's encouraging to read your coverage of the controversy over the re-opening of the bathhouses. The two letters in your May 13th express my feelings exactly. As Chuck Kennedy states, it is unwise and inflammatory to use the words "consensual sodomy" in favor of the issue. Those words will surely defeat the effort. It would be better to just say, "Re-Open the Bathhouses Issue." And Chuck Kennedy is certainly correct in stating that bathhouses "are a lot cleaner than where some are doing it now!"

And a thank you to you for the editorial and the item about the meeting with Mayor Willie Brown. It is reassuring to know that you are helping to bring about the return of the bathhouses.

John H. Wallraff
San Francisco

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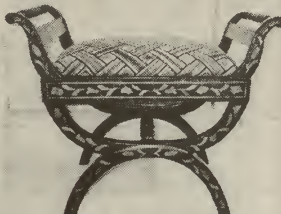
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Milk/machine division on upper Market

We choose to rename the portion of Market Street between Octavia and Portola for one simple reason: to make a large distinction that the Castro is the home to the majority of gays in this city, reaffirming and celebrating our neighborhood.

Of course, we wanted to name the street after a gay leader. Why Harvey Milk? We'll let Harvey's own words speak as to why he was chosen, in an attempt to celebrate our neighborhood while making the statement that District 8 will be run by its neighborhood citizens, not the political machine.

From his inauguration speech: "... I understand very well that my election was not alone a question of my gayness, but a question of what I represent." In a very real sense, Harvey Milk represented the spirit of the neighborhoods of San Francisco. For the past few years, my fight to make the voice of the neighborhoods of this city be heard was not unlike the fight to make the voice of the cities themselves to be heard.

"Let's make no mistake about this: The American Dream starts with the neighborhoods ... we must understand the quality of life is more important than the standard of living. To sit on the front steps - whether it's a verandah in a small town or a concrete stoop in a big city - and talk to our neighborhoods is infinitely more important."

That is why we choose Harvey to once again symbolize a movement that wants a Castro, a San Francisco, where the quality of life for all of its citizens is considered more important than our city's bankbook. Where the citizens of this city's neighborhoods decide what's good for them and not be dictated to by the machine that is currently in control of this city.

The ballot initiative to rename a portion of Market Street after Harvey Milk is more than a simple remembrance. It's a dedication to that dream of a city run by its neighborhoods and citizens.

To help on this grassroots initiative, call us at (415) 934-8222 or e-mail gaymecca@pacbell.net. We are will soon start to have public meetings as well. To find out when and where, give us a shout.

Jim Buresch
San Francisco

De facto the matter

Harvey Milk deserves the honor of having a San Francisco street named after him. However, I oppose renaming a "portion" of Market Street.

Instead of renaming Market Street, a street name that is deeply rooted in the historical vibrancy of the city, let's honor Harvey by naming a street without a name, for example 18th Street, which runs right through the heart of the Castro.

Rallies, political activism, community projects, and meetings that center at 18th and Castro have turned the corner into a *de facto* community center. Even the planners of the renaming Market Street held the campaign kick-off at the corner last Saturday.

I applaud the Castro Citizens Congress effort to name a street after a hero of the community, and know that we can work together and properly honor Harvey Milk.

Keith Meinhold
San Francisco

Pilgrim's lack of progress

In a letter that appeared in the B.A.R. May 6, Robert P. Conner comments that it's only necessary to speak five words of Spanish in order to get the Mexican vote. I find it shallow, ill-advised and hypocritical to indulge in cultural slams and stereotypes when, in effect, we as gays are also fighting negative views of us as a group!

It's nothing less than amazing that after 150 years of *La Raza* being denied a good education (or any education at all); being the last hired and first fired for low end jobs; being red-lined by Realtors, loan companies, and banks; being denied a realistic image in U.S. school text, newspapers, books, films, TV, cartoons, and "historical" museums - not to mention being gerrymandered into political innocuousness - and some "pilgrim" is whining that Mexicans might not vote according to his gay needs!

Most Mexicanos are poor and like other Americans, watch too much TV and in many ways are exposed to a lot of harmful propaganda. The life of the poor or poor in spirit in the U.S. can make for extremely narrow social concerns as well-evidenced by your letter.

Perhaps poor Mexicans, like poor whites and poor blacks, have put your gay needs on the back burner, if they gave those needs much thought at all, in the daily struggle to make ends meet.

How about getting off your alienated butt and doing some outreach? There's no lack of local, regional, or national Chicano organizations that could use help in putting across a progressive social and political agenda which includes awareness of lesbians and gays and respect for our rights.

Don't curse the *obscuridad*, *vata*; light an *esfera*!

Antonio Perales Fierro
San Francisco

Not too clothed for comfort

On May 16, a gay Canadian and I walked nude across the city, from SoMa to the Pacific Ocean. I (#21581) carried my rainbow flag on a pole topped by a sign reading "July 4, Baker Beach." Many others also traveled naked, semi-nude, and/or body-painted in "Bare" To Breakers 1999. Public reactions ranged from neutral to humorous to positive, so far as we could tell. Many clothists asked permission to have their photos taken with us.

SFPD's traditional skin-tolerance in May contrasts with their attempt in 1998 to banish nudes (and even womyn's areolas) from the corporate-controlled LGBT "Pride" parade (an issue which only the B.A.R. covered fairly). Dyke March organizers rejected the anti-areola policy flatly.

Now how will SFPD behave? Does their dress code vary as rapidly as our local weather? Are SF cops kind in May, mean in June?

I ask Mayor Willie Brown, "If your police department can tolerate naked persons, and topless womyn, at the (mainly-straight) Bay-To-Breakers, then why does SFPD try to censor the same exposure at the (mainly-queer) LGBT Pride Parade? Why does the city, through its military power, discriminate against lavender communities? Why do we have less freedom in June than in May?"

Readers are urged to share their opinions with Da mayor (Willie Brown@ci.sf.ca.us) with a copy to the police chief (SFDchf@ix.netcom.com), and one to me, please (nudelder@pacbell.net or Box 426937-SUN, SF 94142).

Tortuga Bi Liberty
for Senior Unlimited Nudes
San Francisco

The answers are close at hand

I see the need for community services in San Francisco, every day, in my neighborhood. I know this city and its citizens have a reputation for taking care of its communities. It would seem that services are available if we only knew how to find them. Where do we find affordable childcare, home-delivered meals, the latest AIDS drug trials, a nearby free meal, after-school programs, day treatment for people with disabilities, assistance in finding a job, or homeless shelters? How do we access services that are needed by just about everyone in this community like registering to vote, getting a parking permit, adult education, filing a complaint, or meeting people with similar interests?

The San Francisco Community Connection database is the place where we can turn for help. It is a free service of the San Francisco Public Library, available at all branches and over the Internet at sfpl.lib.ca.us:8002/SOCSEER. It is a single source for comprehensive, up-to-date community information.

When I look up my neighborhood, Haight Ashbury, in the database, I find programs that address issues relevant to the needs of that area. I find homeless shelters, free meals, homeless drop-in centers and services for homeless youth. I find free and low-cost medical care, senior programs, services for children (educational programs and recreational activities) and drug and alcohol treatment. I also find neighborhood groups who help improve the neighborhood, an association of merchants who address shared concerns, a recycling program, a playground, a public library and a YMCA. If I search under my zip code, I find additional educational programs for adults and children, cultural institutions, care for people with AIDS/HIV, services for various ethnic groups and for gays and lesbians, the Social Security Office, the DMV, and many other community services.

The database is also a great place to do outreach, exchange information and get involved in the community. I can find listings of public meeting rooms available for community groups; local organizations that publish newsletters, and groups that sponsor events like street fairs. The database also has a listing of organizations where I can volunteer my time.

Information about each agency includes how to contact the organization; a complete description of services offered; who is eligible; what fees, if any, are involved; languages spoken by the staff; and even how to get there by Muni or BART. Assistance, support and training on the use of the database are available to anyone by calling (415) 557-4589 weekdays or e-mail mariaa@sfpl.lib.ca.us.

A single place exists where we can access services and begin to address our community's needs. We can find the resources to solve problems for ourselves in our day-to-day lives. We can find solutions for friends, family members, and neighbors. We can locate others who want to improve our community and explore new ways to work together. All this is available at your nearest public library and on the library's website. So the next time you are on the Internet or at a library, explore the San Francisco Community Connection. It is the first place to start when we want to access all that our community has to offer.

Jeff Thomas
San Francisco

POLITICS

GOP seeks to close gender gap

by Wayne Friday

It is hardly a secret that for Democrats, women voters have long been like money in the bank. Women voters – Republicans as well as Democrats – twice elected Bill Clinton to the White House; this year women voters, for the most part, stood by Clinton in the scandal over his relationship with a young female White House intern. Further, it was with the help of women voters (again, Republicans as well as Democrats) who helped Clinton's party pick up several House seats while holding their own in the U.S. Senate, when political tradition and forecasters of both parties were predicting defeat for the Democrats.

Conversely, when women voters stay home, as they did in the 1994 congressional elections, Democrats lose, and lose badly. Republicans gained control of Congress in 1994 for the first time in over 40 years, and it was clearly the lack of interest on the part of the nation's women voters that allowed the GOP their congressional victories.

Clearly, in most national races, women voters usually favor Democratic candidates, but in next year's presidential race Republicans think they see an opportunity to close the gender gap, perhaps even tilt it slightly to their favor. Indeed, according to several recent surveys, Texas Governor George W. Bush and Elizabeth Dole's candidacies offer signs that the Democratic Party's lifeline with majority women voters could stray in the 2000 campaign.

GOP political strategists caution that Bush and Dole are not well-known beyond their famous family names, and that the public's mood will most surely shift many times before November of 2000, but in the early presidential match-ups both Bush and Dole beat vice president Al Gore, the likely Democratic nominee; a recent Gallup Poll has Dole edging Gore by 14 points, Bush by 12 points, and these pollsters say it is women giving them the edge.

While Democratic strategists, including some of them working directly for the Gore campaign, admit that the nomination of either Bush or Dole would pose problems for the vice president if the elections were held next week, these same people say it is far too early for panic by the Democrats and point out that there are two things, now seemingly likely, that would help the Gore campaign – as well as the Democrats' congressional effort – in a big way.

One is if (as it seems to become more and more a likelihood) first lady Hillary Clinton becomes a candidate for the U.S. Senate from New York in 2000; Republicans, as well as Democratic strategists agree that, win or lose, a Hillary campaign would bring excitement to the election – nationwide as well as in New York – to the point that it could only help a Gore for president campaign. A spokesperson for Emily's List, a network of women

who donate money to Democrats, said this week that "one of the biggest problems we have in this business is apathy; if Hillary becomes a senatorial candidate she will blow apathy apart and will draw women voters to the polls in droves in the 2000 election and that only helps the entire Democratic Party ticket."

The second event is the growing gun control debate. Women favor more gun control, and they trust Democrats more than Republicans to do something about it – just as they do on improving education and healthcare, two other chief concerns. Their faith in the gun control

issue was rewarded last week when the Democrats forced the majority-party Republicans to accept the first strict gun-control measure in years, and Al Gore got to bask in the glow of what could become a very crucial campaign momentum when, as president of the Senate, he cast the vote that broke a 50-50 tie.

Even bitter Republicans were admitting that Gore had scored big on the tie-breaking vote. One Republican strategist quipped, "Equal pay, abortions, environment, and now the damned gun bill – I'll admit it, when people focus and see that Gore is on the good side of these issues, he's going to be very hard to beat next year."

It was the highly publicized gun control bill last week that political experts say will likely start turning Gore's fortunes around with women voters. Republican opposition allowed the Democrats to paint them as political captives of the gun lobby, and with the new measure passing last week, with leadership parts played by California's two Democratic female senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, none other than the respected Pew Research Center for the People and the Press was declaring this week that Democrats could clearly benefit if the issue stays hot for a few months. "This issue alone would certainly sustain the gender gap, if not indeed increase it" in the Democrat's favor, Pew said.

While Republican campaign people realize that winning the White House in 2000 and holding onto their slim majority in Congress depend heavily on gaining some of the long-held female Democratic vote, neither Mrs. Dole or Governor Bush, both of whom are against abortion but prefer to say little about the issue, have given women voters much reason to date to leave Mr. Clinton's candidate Al Gore.

Again, two of the issues seemingly most important to women voters of both parties are abortion and gun control: Dole has spoken out sparingly about gun control; she backs child-safe locks and an assault weapons ban and opposes the right to carry concealed weapons. Bush has supported minor gun control restrictions, but according to aides, thinks last week's Democratic-sponsored gun laws went too far and as Governor of Texas, he re-

cently signed a bill allowing the carrying of concealed weapons in that state.

Bush and Dole both also are against abortion, but both hedge on the issue by saying that their party should concentrate on more achievable goals, such as maybe banning late-term abortions. Bush has taken to calling himself a "compassionate conservative" – a term he says embraces some conservative and some centrist viewpoints. Clearly, while both George W. "Junior" Bush and Mrs. Robert "Liddy" Dole currently show well in early polls, most Americans know little about either of them beyond the fact that Bush's father and namesake was once president and Mrs. Dole's husband ran for the White House in 1996.

Women might currently find the Dole candidacy a uniquely historic opportunity, but the woman known best for her service in the administrations of Ronald Reagan and George Bush will have to come out with more than she has on the all-important abortion and gun controls, and other hot-button issues like gay rights, before she can hope to break through the gender gap. As for those polls that GOP strategists are so gleefully waving around, remember that George Bush was riding an 86 percent job approval rating early in the year that lost the White House to Bill Clinton in 1992.

Politics and people

Around the Hall of Justice they are saying that attorney Bill Fazio, who lost out to D.A. Terence Hallinan four years ago in a bitter campaign, is set to enter the race again this year. Can Fazio beat Hallinan? I doubt it – but the hunt is still on by a group of well-connected attorneys to find a candidate that might be able to.

Rich Tafel, the top man at the predominately gay and lesbian Log Cabin Republicans, is telling reporters his group will demand that one of their own is allowed to address the GOP National Convention in Philadelphia in July of 2000 (but don't bet the farm on it happening, folks).

Friends and supporters of Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley (D) are having a fundraiser/reception for him June 10, 6-8 p.m. at the Palace Hotel on New Montgomery Street, to help raise funds for his re-election. (Donations of \$100 and up are asked; call Ron Wong at 920-9764 for info.)

The mayor's race is less than six months away and, except for Clint Reilly, no other serious candidates have jumped in against Mayor Willie Brown; Tom Ammiano continues to tell me that he isn't running (though some of his friends tell me otherwise), former mayor Frank Jordan, a good man but not a good politician, says he will announce either way next month (I'm betting he won't run); Supervisor Leland Yee doesn't look like a candidate, and though the Angela Alioto rumors persist, that, too, is unlikely, and as the saying goes, "You can't beat somebody with nobody." I'm saying it's Willie Brown for another four years. ▼



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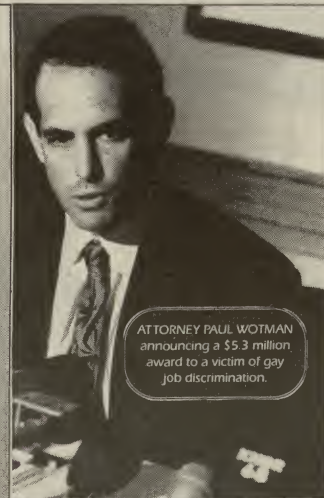
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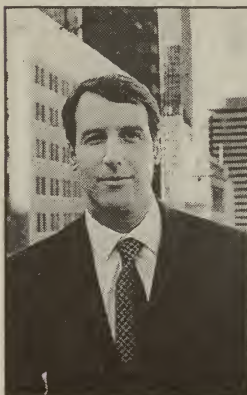
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Gay-themed pitches: to whose ad vantage?

by Jerry Weinstein,
GLAAD publications
manager

Anheuser-Busch's recent Bud Light ad in *EXP*, a St. Louis biweekly gay publication, reverberated around the country. Jerry Falwell mobilized his denizens to ring Busch's toll-free lines off the hook. Interestingly, the ad merely shows a couple (from the back) holding hands. In a current print and billboard campaign Subaru has mounted a wry campaign, with license plates that read, "CAMP OUT," "PTOWNIE," "XENA LVR," complete with a rainbow flag sticker and the Human Rights Campaign's equality symbol on the bumper. It is important, however, to examine the trajectory in advertising, and to question the motives of the companies that are courting the gay dollar. Are we being exploited as a community, or treated with respect? Two articles from the *Los Angeles Times* and the *San Francisco Examiner*, respectively, look at this recent phenomenon.

In the May 18 *Los Angeles Times*, Cliff Rothman investigates the power of the gay and lesbian market, which has seen ad dollars in the gay press doubling in the last five years, moving from \$53 million to \$120 million. Rothman speaks with pioneers, such as IKEA and Dockers, who led with portrayals of lesbians and gay men, pointing out the unsuccessful boycott of Disney, and charting the way to the present, where more and more ads are "openly gay," rather than implicitly so.

Dave Ford of the *San Francisco Examiner*, in an op-ed entitled "Intoxicated by Bud Light's Gay-Themed Ads," questions blind allegiance to those brands that deign to cater to the gay market. While his statement that "Advertising imagery does not change people's minds" is disputable, the remainder of the piece is food for thought. Ford asks us to consider that we are "so starved for positive representation in the dominant culture that we run the risk of mistaking consumerist assimilation for respect, advertising imagery for rights." A progressive corporation, Ford suggests, would not merely produce ads for a gay market, but would fund grassroots legislative drives, gays-in-the-workplace seminars, and treatment for substance abuse in the gay and lesbian community.

Please thank Subaru for an ad campaign that acknowledges lesbian and gay automobile enthusiasts, in all their diversity and the mass transit systems of Washington, D.C. and the Bay Area that have run these ads.

Please write to the *Los Angeles Times* to thank them for an education in advertising to the "gay market," and to the *San Francisco Examiner* for a cautionary discussion on not confusing visibility for authenticity.

Contact: John Lindsay, Managing Editor, *Los Angeles Times*, Times Mirror Square Los Angeles, CA 90053 fax: (213) 237-4712; Sharon Rosenhouse, Man-

aging Editor, *San Francisco Examiner*, P.O. Box 7260, San Francisco, CA 94120, fax: (415) 512-1264; Advertising, Subaru of America, (609) 488-8500, e-mail: www.subaru.com/feedback/index.html; For mass transit advertising, Dan Langdon, Transportation Displays Incorporated (TDI), (202) 775-9115

Judge(ment) gone awry

Chicago Sun Times reporter Adrienne Drell reported on May 14 the story of Susan J. McDunn, a Cook County Circuit Court Judge who breached the confidentiality of two sets of adoptive lesbian couples by sending their application information to the ultra-conservative Family Research Council and adding FRC as a party to the adoption process.

McDunn's actions in each of these cases was unprecedented and Drell catalogs a list of infractions which makes a case for her disbarment. As the legal affairs reporter, Drell invokes the language of the Illinois Supreme Court canon of ethics, which requires judges to perform their duties "impartially and diligently."

McDunn was ultimately transferred to traffic court by her supervisor, Judge Francis Barth, but has refused to surrender jurisdiction on the two cases in question. Beyond Drell's helpful background on McDunn, Drell speaks to the role that Lambda Legal Defense has played in this dispute. Lambda filed initial briefs with the Illinois Court of Appeals, succeeded in having Judge Barth remove McDunn, and is set to argue for the resolution of this dispute on June 1. Rather than portray lesbian adoption as suspect and requiring scrutiny, Drell covered this story impartially, as the judge should have, and has produced a pithy ethics lesson that should guide lawyers and adoptive parents alike.

Please thank the *Chicago Sun Times* for this thoughtful piece, which stresses that our laws are designed to protect all.

Contact Larry Green, Executive Editor, *Chicago Sun Times*, 401 N. Wabash, Chicago, IL 60611, fax: (312) 321-2120, e-mail: lgreen@suntimes.com

Blazing new trails and batting 1.000

Sports, the final frontier. While it is certainly difficult to be "out" in fields such as high finance, it also remains problematic in the world of sports, from sandlot baseball to professional sports. In this arena gender roles are policed with extreme care, and being lesbian and gay opens one to scrutiny, and possibly, danger, in what is by design a physical outlet. Two pieces, in *Newsday* and the *Los Angeles Times* celebrate a well-known owner of a sports franchise, and in the latter, the players on a gay softball team at Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Park.

In the May 16 edition of *Newsday*, Kelly Whiteside writes of Carol Blazejewski's coming out to the public-at-large. Whiteside does double duty in this concise piece, lauding Blaze for being

what is believed to be the first executive of a professional sports team to be openly gay, as well as providing readers with a context for why sports are homophobic. In the case of Blaze's team, the Liberty, and women's professional basketball in general, "there is a great fear [...] that their sexual orientation will have a negative affect on sponsorships." Blaze, apparently, is unafraid.

Art Marroquin, a staff writer for the *Los Angeles Times*, writes on May 15 of the importance of softball to a cadre of gay men. In "Gay League, Myths Strike Out," Marroquin writes of the Greater Los Angeles Softball Association, a gay league of 31 teams established 21 years ago, and of the players from three of its teams, the Batboys, the Bandits, and the Mayan Warriors, all who play for the fun of it, and in so doing shatter myths: "Because we're gay, people don't expect us to play sports," said Martin Madrigal. "I'm glad I proved that myth wrong because playing softball has played such a large role in finding out who I am."

Please praise *Newsday* and the *Los Angeles Times* for publishing these pieces which will contribute to recognition and eradication of homophobia in sports.

Contact Richard Galant, Managing Editor, *Newsday*, 80-02 Kew Gardens Road, Kew Gardens, New York 11415-3610, fax: (718) 575-2550; and John, Lindsay, Managing Editor, *Los Angeles Times*, Times Mirror Square Los Angeles, CA 90053 fax: (213) 237-4712

Dallas south sixty or being gay in Gun Barrel City

In the May 16 issue of the *Dallas Morning News* Michael Precker gives an account of gay life in Gun Barrel City, Texas, a rural town of 6,000 that is 60 miles south of Dallas. He follows proprietors of the town's gay bar, Friends, and interviews residents (gay and straight), elected officials, and even one disapproving pastor one town away. While life is far from utopian, members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community feel that they can be "out" without living in the big city. It is true that members in the community are somewhat circumspect about their place in greater Gun Barrel — they hold no gay pride marches — but they maintain that this is one small town that follows the axiom, "live and let live." Case in point: The proprietor of Friends, Dewayne Bell, took part in a benefit show for a local food bank. Afterward a group headed out in full drag for dinner at "Whataburger." No one remarked.

Please commend the *Dallas Morning News* for publishing "Out: Among Friends in Gun Barrel City," an engaging piece that looks at rural gay life with open eyes.

Contact John Cranfill, Editor, *Dallas Morning News*, P.O. Box 655237, Dallas, Texas 75265 fax: (214) 977-8321 e-mail: john@dallasnews.com ▼

Contact GLAAD by e-mail at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244.

Out in a Blaze of nonchalance

by Nancy Boutilier

I can still remember the way Carol Blazejowski could light up a scoreboard. One of the purest shooters the hardwood has ever seen, Blaze could fire up a gym long before women's basketball was on the map any more than, say, New Jersey was.

She was a superstar before the NCAA opted to let women in, back in the days when the College of Immaculata captured the first three national championships sponsored by the now-defunct AIAW. Blaze led the nation in scoring 1977 and 1978 when playing for unheralded Montclair State.

For all her dazzling dribbles, her flashy passing, and her dead-eye shooting, Blaze's name always got lost in the shuffle between Nancy Lieberman of ODU and Ann Meyers of UCLA, players whose teams won titles. Lucy Harris, who led Delta State, was another whose name seemed to fade away too quickly as that generation gave way to the Cheryl Miller, then the Sheryl Swoopes, and finally the Rebecca Lobo generations. Now, of course, we have entered the Age of Chamique.

Years ago, in a "Where is she now?" moment, I read that Blaze was still in the game of basketball, working in promotions for the NBA. When the NBA announced its intention of starting up a women's league a couple of years ago, Val Ackerman got most of the executive attention, but in the shadow was the Blaze, still in the game, if not the spotlight.

The Blaze, who still holds the Madison Square Garden record for a college player from when she scored 52 points against Queens College in 1977, is again in the Big Apple—and hotter than ever. She is in her third season as vice president and general manager of a WNBA franchise, the New York Liberty.

Last year's team media guide reported that Blazejowski lived in Nutley, New Jersey, with her two dogs. In one year, much has changed.

This year, the biography notes that the Blaze lives with Joyce, her partner, and their two children, Lainey and Luke.

Apparently, the family is not new, just the acknowledgment of it. Blaze's family has been visible at games in past years, but now it's on paper, an official family, right there in the WNBA record books along with Sheryl Swoopes's overly celebrated husband and child.

And I know I'm not the only one who thinks it makes a difference. Just ask her dogs, Rex and Rookie.

The Blaze shall be overshadowed no more. She is believed to be the first executive of a professional sports team to publicly acknowledge that she is gay. Hip-hip-hooray for an ounce of honesty in professional sports.

Nevertheless, for all the pioneering of her revelation, the Blaze's coming out has been relatively blasé. The lack of fanfare is refreshing after so much hype regarding Ellen's pronouncement. No special press conference. No Beanie Baby in celebration of the



event. Just a line in a media guide bio.

Yet it's also a big enough deal that just a year ago the media guide listed only a pair of chocolate Labrador retrievers where a family should have been.

One of only 11 women who has been inducted into Basketball's Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts, Blaze makes credible that oft-quoted one-in-10 figure. But if we were to go through the list of 11 with a well-tuned gaydar, well, there's no telling what we might find. But I digress. She may be the only out Hall of Famer too.

On one hand, Blaze's family configuration should be a simple footnote. On the other hand, it remains a trail-blazing moment. Who better to blaze that trail the Blaze herself? And with what better-named team than the Liberty?

And, I suppose, that's the point. We've reached a point in our gay and lesbian liberation movement where it's no big deal to come out AND it still is a big deal to come out. The "We Are Everywhere" slogan has been internalized by most Americans—even those who don't like the idea and will fight us and our rights.

Gay men and lesbians have become a common occurrence on primetime television and the coming out struggle is one that has been widely documented in the popular media.

But we still cannot see two men kiss on *Melrose Place*. We still hear charges of "recruitment" when schools provide a safe place for gay, lesbian, and bisexual students to gather. We still cannot say it in the military. We still have politicians scrambling to "protect" marriage from us. We're still too aware of the bullies and the beatings.

And the struggles for both bisexual and transgender visibility and rights remain a step behind, less recognized and more misunderstood—even by many who identify as gay and lesbian.

America knows we are out here, even when they don't know which one of us is the one in 10. So, it's still worth being counted.

Whether it happens quietly in the footnotes or in bold letters across a headline, whether we

chant it in the streets or say it over a fence to our neighbors, whether our family configurations include lovers, children, dogs, and/or cats, whether we are athletes, actors, aviators, artists, masons, secretaries, executives, groundskeepers, educators, sports executives, or out of work, we still need more trailblazing.

Thanks, Blaze, for keeping the flame alive. ▼

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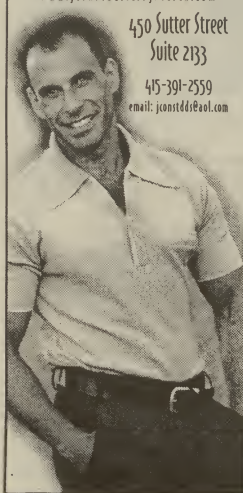
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by Jane Warner and
Ron McGlashan

Wednesday, May 19, 3 a.m., Cala Foods, 4201 18th Street: The night manager of Cala observed a man stealing several bottles of aspirin. As the suspect left the store, the manager and a Cala security guard stopped him outside the store and made a citizen's arrest. The suspect had over \$175 worth of Advil, Bayer, and Tylenol in his possession. The security guard handcuffed the suspect to a handrail inside the store and went to call the police. When he returned, the suspect was gone, but the handcuffs were still there, dangling from the railing. Apparently the suspect had eluded capture by having a hidden handcuff

key in his possession.

The suspect is described as an adult white male, 6 feet tall, 220 pounds, wearing a blue sweatshirt, with blue eyes, dirty blonde hair, a long, thin face, a mustache, and slight beard. He verbally identified himself to the security guard as Jason Dragg.

Eye bank

Friday, May 21, 12 p.m., Bay View Bank, 443 Castro Street: The suspect entered Bay View Bank and appeared to be loitering. When the branch manager asked him if he needed help, the man told her, "No, I'm just casing the place." The manager asked him to leave, and on his

way out he approached the security guard and said, "I was going to rob the place, but you were here." The man left the bank, and the manager called the police. A check of the neighborhood was conducted, but the suspect was not found and the case was forwarded to the FBI as a possible robbery attempt.

The suspect is described as an adult white male, 65 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, chunky build, clean shaven, with a very well-groomed appearance. He wore glasses, a "newsboy" cap with a snap, a blue jacket, tan pants, and black tennis shoes with white laces.

Fan of the ban but not the man

Wednesday, May 19, Reprise Records, 2275 Market Street: The owner of Reprise Records reported being approached by a man selling "Lift the Ban" buttons, claiming that the proceeds are going for marijuana legalization. The owner of the record store recognized the buttons as those that are given away free at A Different Light Bookstore, and told the man to leave.

The suspect is described as an

adult white male, 30 years old, 5 feet 6 inches tall, with wavy black hair. He was wearing a green trench coat, carrying a briefcase, and walking with a limp.

Fear not the ABC

The owner of a Polk area bar approached an officer of the SFPD voicing concern regarding strong-arm activity in the area. He had witnessed a mugging at one of the local check cashing facilities. He decided not to call the police fearing that he would endanger his ABC license. If identifying yourself or your establishment is a problem, the SFPD encourages business owners, employees, and residents of the Polk to report crimes in the area by making anonymous calls to the SFPD at (415) 533-0123. ▼

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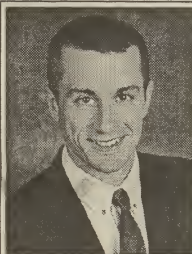
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- Inspect exhaust system
- Inspect heating & cooling system
- Pressure test coolant system
- Flush radiator & replace coolant
- Inspect hydraulic brake system
- Replace brake fluid
- Adjust parking brake

- Inspect brake lining
- Rotate tires
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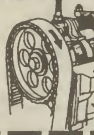


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by Mark Norby

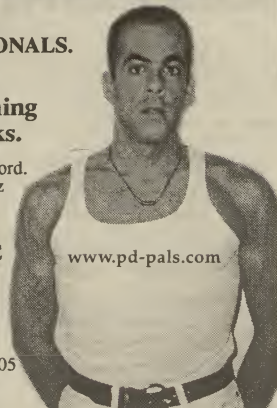
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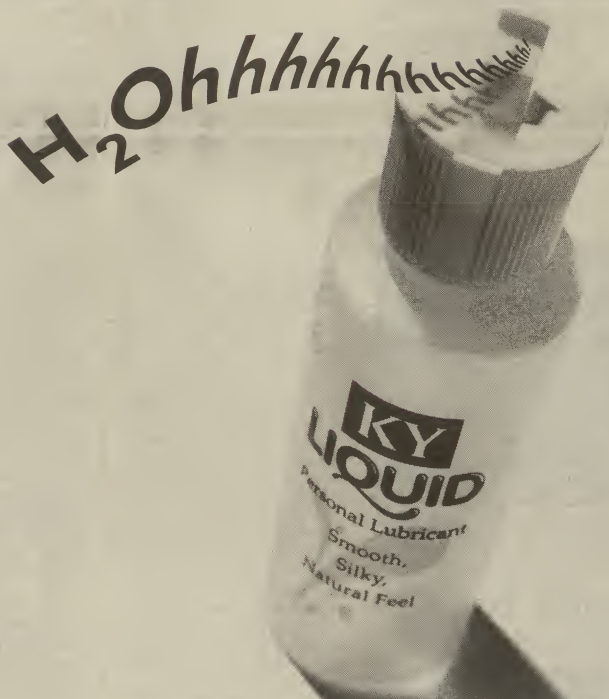
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Wheels of Fortune, Part 6: Lost and foundation

by Jim Provenzano

"Your pledges cover the costs of food, tents and various support services for riders. Basically, you good folks, through CAR6, supply support, I supply the sweat. Sort of a working vacation. At first I even felt a little odd about this, as though I was, in part, asking for donations to buy my vacation trip. I've gotten over that."

— from the AIDS Ride web page of California AIDS Ride 6 participant Lenny Brandriet

Looking past the controversies of other events produced by Pallotta TeamWorks, the AIDS Rides that benefit the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) stand as shining examples of large-scale fundraising at its best. No one can contest that millions are raised. This year SFAF predicts nearly \$5 million gross, from which it expects to net about \$3 million.

According to a form letter SFAF Executive Director Pat Christen sends to AIDS Ride donors, their money goes to "support vital programs and services that address the ever-growing needs of our clients affected by AIDS and HIV disease." Some disenchanted former SFAF workers and clients dispute that.

As the *Bay Area Reporter* reported last week, what is ever-growing at the foundation are extensive raises for high level executives, ranging from 10 to almost 20 percent.

One beneficiary of those increases is Lance Henderson, director of finance and administration,

who receives a nearly \$126,000 annual salary. Some consider that standard by comparison to corporations, and others justify it for an AIDS service organization (ASO) of this size, but some just see it as excess. They say that with some programs cut, social workers positions eliminated and, according to an inside source, an atmosphere of "useless paper-pushing" pervading the green high-rise on Sixth and Market streets, the foundation may be suffering from an imbalance of funding priorities taking precedence over client services.

Even the process of dealing with criticism from this newspaper is costly. Dividing Henderson and Christen's salaries by a 52-week, nine-hour work day, just the two of them discussing this newspaper for one hour - an event that did happen - cost SFAF over \$147.

Henderson also spoke with the *Bay Area Reporter* directly, for almost an hour.

According to Henderson, the AIDS Ride "is the largest single event that we're doing. What's incredibly valuable to us is that it's entirely unrestricted funds. We can direct it to the programs that we see fit, and that make the most sense for additional investment. With government funding, which is much more constrained, in our interactions and negotiations with government entities, it's obviously harder to redirect those funds."

"When you enter into a government relationship, you often enter into multi-year contracts based upon RFPs [requests for proposals]. We certainly have gov-

ernment contracts that fund a variety of our programs, but unrestricted funds - similarly, money from the AIDS Walk and other fundraising events - allow us to respond more quickly to the changes in the epidemic. With a lot of our treatment support programs, we've been able to move faster in making those funds available."

On the other hand, as a former employee of Pallotta TeamWorks pointed out, riders don't know where unrestricted funds go specifically, so unrestricted equals unaccountable. Some ASOs have shown salaries doubling after the AIDS Ride. Predictably, even though subsequent AIDS Rides took up more of the proceeds, the administrators who benefited declined to criticize increasing expenses and fees.

When asked how much is too much of a percentage to take, Henderson said, "It's difficult to make a generic comment. Our overall cost of fundraising represents 22 percent, and that represents a mix of many different kinds of fundraising. We expect this event to always come in [with overhead] at under 40 cents to the dollar."

"Over 40 cents on the dollar would be too much, but that was not our standard the first year when we were first experimenting with the event, trying to figure out if it would work at all in San Francisco. It's one of those things you need to learn from."

While acknowledging that other ASOs suffered multi-million dollar "learning experiences" as Ride beneficiaries, Henderson remains confident in the process, considering the long term goals.

"We monitor expenditures on literally a weekly basis, and the budget on an annual basis. It is an expensive event to put on."

"It's almost hard to explain unless you actually go on the Ride," continued Henderson, who will be riding for the fifth year. "I do it for a lot of reasons. I love the event, but as the finance director, I care a lot how they spend their money. Being out there on the Ride gives me a real feel for where that's going and whether or not it's appropriate."

Of the ride environment, "We have many multi-year riders," he said. "One of the powers of the Ride itself is that it has attracted a new audience of participants around the epidemic and who are helping and supporting. As to our recruiting numbers, every year we're closing the recruitment deadline earlier and earlier, and I think that's a measure of the success of the event and the confidence people have in how the money's being spent."

But if recruitment is easier each year, then why have recruitment costs gone up to over \$1,073,991, or 21 percent, according to the CAR4 [California AIDS Ride 4] Summary provided by the foundation?

"I'm well aware that there are people who have questions about the foundation and AIDS expenditures," said Henderson. "Our figures are audited on an annual basis. These numbers are right out of our audited financial statement and this is how the money gets spent, this is what our fundraising sources are."

"We are well aware that people could chose to think, 'This isn't right for me.' That's fine. This is a

'Rescue me'

The Camp Pallotta Song, a whimsical parody written and performed by Willmoed Sisson at the GTE Big Ride '98 Talent Show in Maryland, bears laughable irony for both supporters and critics. While the song, in its last verse, retracts all complaints, for others the Ride's "taking so much" rings all too true:

Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh, rescue me from Camp Pallotta
Can't you see, the semi drivers all want to run over me.
My poor bike is really creaking, wish I'd bought a triple chain ring.
I am sure I will be needing knee replacement surgery!
South Dakota had the prairies, and Wisconsin had the dairies.
I'm so sick of all the farm scenes; this whole country lives on
Corn, wheat, cheese, and soybeans! They say hydrate or you will die
But the potties are not nearby. All the meals are quite fantastic.
I'm so glad my bike shorts have lots of elastic!
Take me home, oh Muddah, Fadduh, rescue me from Dan Pallotta
Can't you see, this ride has really taken so much out of me.

— Jim Provenzano

way that a lot of people have chosen to support the agency and the epidemic."

Also, he said, "One of the powers of the Ride is that it brings attention to the fact that the epidemic is not over. Every year as the Ride takes off and rides down the coast, it gets enormous media attention, it brings to the forefront what an important cause this continues to be. I think it has a very positive impact."

An April editorial in Chicago's *Windy City Times* disagrees. "As if 15 minutes of exposure to bicyclists will persuade rural America to use condoms."

Pledges and profit

Does Henderson believe that those who produce the Ride should be impervious to any scrutiny, where their money's spent, or how much the producer may really be making?

"That's kind of our role here in being a contractor for this event. We spend a lot of time scrutinizing their budget every year as we enter into contracts with them. I absolutely would not say that they are impervious to negotiations or commentary. We take that responsibility seriously."

Henderson doesn't believe Pallotta's company should be investigated. "It's important that people not hold them to a standard that's inappropriate, as if they were a nonprofit organization. And I think that because they're a for-profit company they just operate in a different regulatory world and we just have to respect that fact."

In five cities now, questions and problems come up when a majority of the proceeds did not go to the ASOs. Despite this, the relationship between Pallotta's company and the SFAF remains strong.

"We don't have any information more than you do about those Rides," said Henderson. "My perception, as someone who's been managing our Ride for the past three years, the critical success factor is our ability to recruit a great number of riders and give them time to raise their funds and do their training appropriately. I think from year one here, it was such a successful event and people had such a good experience. They tell their friends about it and that enthusiasm is very catching. When you have a slow start, don't get the number of riders signed up, and start to get embroiled in mixed media attention, it's hard to recover from that."

One criticism from several regional Rides was the disproportionate fees charged versus the size of the events. Should a company like Pallotta's gauge their fees accordingly?

"There's a lot of debate in the fundraising community on

whether it's actually ethical to structure your fees in a way where the producers income is tied to the success of the event," he said. "We are the entity that bears the risk around the success of the event. They bear the risk of hiring staff, doing the event, managing security, insuring against losses."

"I don't think it's prudent or appropriate to expect that an event producer bear the risk of whether that event is successful or not when it's a partnership. It's not unlike our relationship with the AIDS Walk. It's our event. I think it's more complex than whether it should be a sliding fee structure. The costs are fixed. You can't adjust the medical or camp sites. It's part of the complication of managing an event of this scale."

But with the California AIDS Ride turning in increasingly high returns, couldn't it be more efficient?

"It's easy to think that a lot of these costs are reproducible, but actually remounting the Ride is not starting from scratch. Recruiting riders and feeding them, getting them tented and showered, maintaining safety on the road, putting together all the materials that train riders, are all expensive."

As the largest ASO working with the largest AIDS Ride company, is the SFAF at risk of overlooking questionable spending since they are dependent on those "irreplaceable" millions?

"I don't subscribe to that argument," Henderson said. "I can assure you we have lively and vigorous conversations with Pallotta every year about the contracts and whether or not to proceed together or not. This isn't like we're trying to wash our hands of the responsibility. Those are relationships we are not privy to."

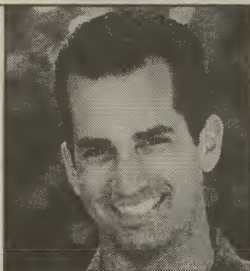
'History of accountability'

He doesn't see inappropriate spending or billing, but if he did, would he do something? "The \$3 million we net is absolutely irreplaceable. There is not something else we could do that would bring that net income into this agency to support the programs that are going on right now."

"When you're trying to support programs of a scale we're trying to support, in an environment where fundraising is so competitive, where in fact, in many sectors of private and public fundraising, are pulling back their support of AIDS, it's irreplaceable funding."

Henderson said he's satisfied with the results, even while he acknowledges the expense. "We've given people the information they need to make that assessment. Last year it cost 37.6 percent to raise that \$4.7 million. People saying we're paying too much for tents or food are second-guessing. They have more than the right to

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May 6, 1999

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Sincerely,

Pat Christen
Pat Christen
Executive Director

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decide that's what they think, but people who support this Ride and the foundation, the history of accountability that we've had over the years, trust us to manage the event and spend our money appropriately.

"We could publish a lot more information for people and they wouldn't read it," he said. "We try to keep it at a digestible form so that most of the riders get the information and their donors get that information. I think it's a matter of a balance of how much information. As a finance person who makes my living putting numbers out, if you start putting out lots of details, people's eyes glaze over, and they miss the point."

The staunchest critics of the Rides may be members of ACT UP/Philadelphia, who instigated the only known staged protest against the AIDS Rides.

When Dan Pallotta, president of Pallotta TeamWorks, which produced the Philadelphia-D.C. AIDS Ride, praised the fundraising event at a February 1998 public appearance promoting his practice of making money by producing benefits, 15 ACT UP members repeatedly interrupted Pallotta's presentation before 80 Wharton School students on the University of Pennsylvania campus, reminding Pallotta that the local Ride yielded 17 cents for every dollar raised, according to audited figures.

"You basically removed more than \$1 million from this city, and people with AIDS got Snickers bars!" ACT UP member Paul Davis shouted to Pallotta, according to *Philadelphia Gay News*.

"Your production fee was \$360,000. How can you justify making that much money on the backs of people living with AIDS?" asked ACT UP member Dawn Acero.

"We made the money off of our own backs, nobody else's," Pallotta is reported as saying.

While the protest set off more questions among the previously

uninformed audience, in other communities, criticism of ASOs and their contractors has been thorough, if not as confrontational.

The San Francisco-based Accountability Project, which monitors and questions spending of nonprofit ASOs, regularly lists the 990 tax form information of many AIDS groups, including SFAF.

"Our country is creating a huge sector that's sometimes replacing government and is spending government money, but has no elected officials and no accountability," famed activist Jeff Getty told the *SF Examiner* in an article about the Accountability Project.

The most vocal critic in the Bay Area is Michael Petrelis, whose other targets include Visual Aid, the artist's AIDS nonprofit which, he asserts, allocates less than 25 percent of its proceeds to artists. The majority is consumed by self-perpetuating administrative costs, he claims.

The peak of Petrelis's ire includes what some consider the height of absurdity: \$10,000 donated requests for boulders in Golden Gate Park's National Memorial AIDS Grove, which has a projected budget of \$3.7 million.

But Petrelis's most shocking claims are that, as an openly HIV-positive man, his services from the foundation were cut off soon after he began criticizing the SFAF, and specifically Christen.

What if an AIDS Rider was critical of the Ride's goals and finances, and that of its recipients? What if that critic was also an AIDS foundation employee?

'Rich Castro men'

Amber Fields worked as a social worker in 1997-98 for less than a year before realizing that "money would be better spent at other smaller, more grassroots AIDS agencies."

In a letter to her AIDS Ride sponsors for the 1998 Ride, Fields,

who raised \$4,000, explained why it would be her last. "The SFAF has seen a growth in hierarchy, bureaucracy, unaccountability, inefficiency, and impersonality."

Recent complaints that have been filed on behalf of a dozen Latino/a employees of the foundation charge the ASO with discriminatory practices in promotions and hiring.

Henderson, and SFAF Communications Director Gustavo Suárez, noted the many other programs the foundation has developed, including the Gay Life program, and its sub-

room" divided by non-private cubicles, hardly the proper environment for PWAs to reveal their potential sexual activities, drug use, or income and housing problems.

Lobbying efforts, too, took a high chunk out of SFAF's budget. Saying they believe in expanded access, needle exchange, and an opposition to names reporting cost a lot to promote.

Said Henderson, "Our public policy efforts are well-understood, both in the federal and state level." As well it should. Over \$1 million was listed on the SFAF's 1997 990s as a "lobbying nontaxable amount." In effect, the SFAF is spending a million to convince politicians to allocate more millions.

Information accessibility is also being reduced. Citing "too many changes to keep it appropriately updated," the popular HIV Resource Guide will no longer be printed, according to social worker Bob Lehr's inquiries. Outreach workers and clients are now expected to find the online version or visit the San Francisco Public Library for information. This assumes not only a technical capability, but freedom or availability of library computers.

One of Fields's other complaints was that although *Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS*, the quarterly publication of SFAF, is produced in-house, frequently "outside writers who are

friends of the managers of this department," are paid up to \$500 an article. She cited these articles as frequently error-ridden and submitted late, thus delaying publication time up to a month.

Fields's letter derided SFAF as cutting back on direct outreach while prioritizing income. "Those youth in Golden Gate Park and the Latino clients with HIV/AIDS are left behind, while management feels entitled to make \$165,000 a year, 'because they care.'"

When Fields sent this letter to one of her sponsors, Brendan Fecht of Los Angeles, he forwarded it to Christen, among others. Fecht was "shocked" by Fields's allegations, responding that "the aggressive, powerful, and groundbreaking executive staff at SFAF would undoubtedly be forced to leave if they could not pay their rent!"

But with weekly gross salaries of over \$2,000 for nearly all executive-level employees, being kicked out onto the street is hardly a threat.

Not so for Fields. Her letter and response to Fecht had an effect. Despite having already given notice, she was abruptly fired, removed from her desk, and escorted out of the building. ▼

Next Week: Part Seven – Devotion Over Dollars: the est connection

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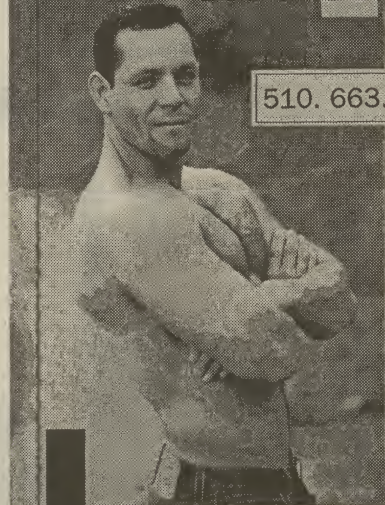
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Celebrating the Body Erotic
June 19 - 20

They're more than 'Dykes on Bikes' Women's Motorcycle Contingent on a roll

by Cynthia Laird

The roar of some 400-plus motorcycles in downtown San Francisco on a June Sunday can only mean one thing: the annual lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender Pride Parade has started, as usual, with the Women's Motorcycle Contingent (WMC). Formerly called Dykes on Bikes, that name was relinquished for legal reasons in the early 1990s, but that doesn't stop most people and mainstream media from using the phrase.

This year, the WMC will again be leading the Pride Parade, and Soni Wolf, secretary of the organization, has put out an urgent call for volunteers for the morning of June 27 to help "these 400-plus women who are overjoyed at riding in the parade keep from getting hurt." Wolf has been riding in every parade that has included the WMC; this year will be her 21st year as a participant.

"After having done it 20 years, it still holds a thrill and a fascination for me, to see all these women ride motorcycles, from all backgrounds," Wolf told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I don't know how to describe it. This is one day when we're fully recognized for who we are. It's just awesome."

There are four main areas where volunteers are needed, Wolf said. The first is registration Sunday morning at Beale and Howard streets, a change from last year's event. While Wolf has mailed out over 500 registration forms to women all over the country, many will wait until Sunday morning to sign up.

After that, volunteers are needed to help line the bikes up before the parade starts, as well as help with the helmet truck. Bikers are permitted to ride in the parade without helmets, but they must be checked in, sort of like a coat-check.

Finally, and most importantly, Wolf said experienced riders are needed to serve as road captains to help keep the huge contingent moving, to help with safety, and to help with parking at the end of the parade route, which this year again ends near Civic Center.

"Ideally, we need 40 experi-



Soni Wolf of the Women's Motorcycle Contingent

enced riders for road captains," Wolf said, adding that by experienced, she means someone who's ridden for five years and who has ridden in the Pride Parade for at least two. "You have to be able to handle people in a judicious, respectful way."

The WMC is not exclusively for women, Wolf said; men have ridden over the years, but the vast majority of riders in the parade are lesbians. When Dykes on Bikes was copyrighted many years ago and the group was asked to stop using it, the WMC found that the new name was actually more inclusive. "It's also a way of not deleting women who are not dykes, and women who are not lesbians," Wolf said.

Wolf said that this year, the WMC is in a transition period, membership is down and some older members have moved out of town. Originally, only three or four women did the bulk of the organizing; that has changed so that now there's a core of between 15-20 women who will help on the day of the parade, not counting the volunteers that are needed. The WMC is a nonprofit organization, but doesn't have a president or vice president. Wolf has served as secretary for the last eight or nine years.

The WMC takes part in other events besides the San Francisco Pride Parade. Wolf said riders have participated in Shanti's Pride Ride and Ride for Life events and

that a group travels south to Fresno to help support that community's pride festivities in June. The group has members throughout the state, including Los Angeles, San Diego, and Long Beach.

Wolf said she hopes more members will take part in other events, to help agencies like Shanti. "We'd like to have more fundraisers to help women," she said.

First and foremost, however, is the job of lining up volunteers for next month's Pride Parade. The WMC meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the back room at the Eagle Tavern. That will continue until July, when meetings go back to once a month until April, when the frenzied pace starts all over again.

So, what's it like riding in the Pride Parade, driving slowly along Market Street with hundreds of thousands of cheering spectators? It requires some adjustments, Wolf explained. "You have to hold the throttle at a certain speed without always riding your brake. It also requires a definite sense of balance, especially if you're carrying a passenger."

"It's a slow ride. You don't get as much of a breeze through your hair." ▼

To volunteer with the WMC for the Pride Parade, call the hotline at (415) 982-8254 and someone will return the call within 24 hours, or send Wolf e-mail at WHTWLFONE@aol.com.

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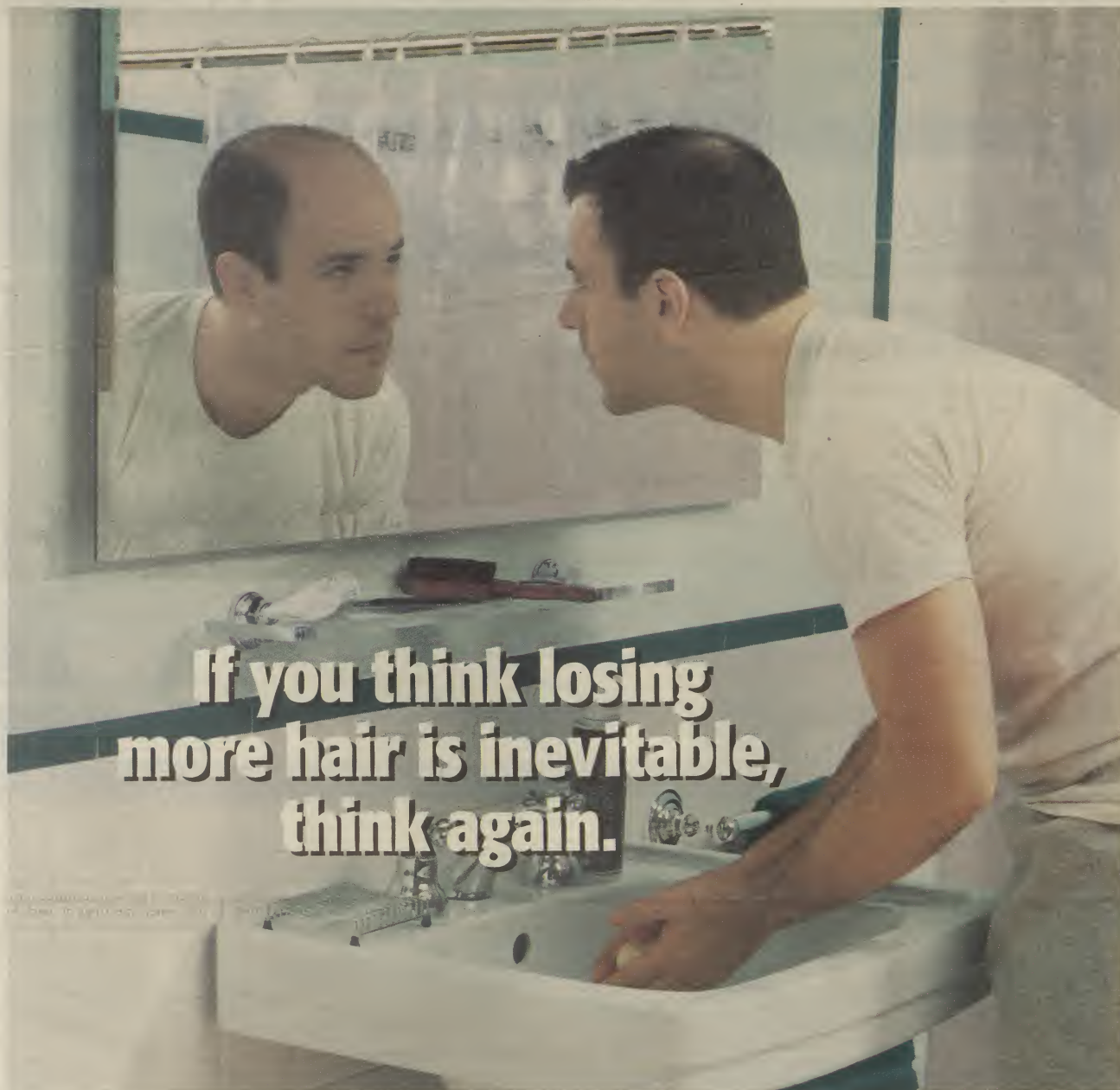
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You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more to see visible results. PROPECIA may not regrow all your hair. And if you stop using this product, you will gradually lose the hair you have gained. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works for recession at the temporal areas. If you haven't seen results after 12 months of using PROPECIA, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit.

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. A very small number of men experienced certain side effects, such as: less desire for sex, difficulty in achieving an erection, and a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects were reversible and went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men (58%) who continued taking PROPECIA.

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What is PROPECIA used for?

PROPECIA is used for the treatment of male pattern hair loss on the vertex and the anterior mid-scalp area. PROPECIA is for use by **MEN ONLY** and should **NOT** be used by women or children.

What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s.

Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies:

For 12 months, doctors studied over 1800 men aged 18 to 41 with mild to moderate amounts of ongoing hair loss. A 11 men, whether receiving PROPECIA or placebo (a pill containing no medication) were given a medicated shampoo (Neutrogena T/Gel® Shampoo). Of these men, approximately 1200 with hair loss at the top of the head were studied for an additional 12 months. In general, men who took PROPECIA maintained or increased the number of visible scalp hairs and noticed improvement in their hair in the first year, with the effect maintained in the second year. Hair counts in men who did not take PROPECIA continued to decrease.

In one study, patients were questioned on the growth of body hair. PROPECIA did not appear to affect hair in places other than the scalp.

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For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

Male pattern hair loss occurs gradually over time. On average, healthy hair grows only about half an inch each month. Therefore, it will take time to see any effect.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

How should I take PROPECIA?

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- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- **Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:**
– must not use PROPECIA
– should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

The active ingredient in PROPECIA is also used by older men at a five-times higher dose to treat enlargement of the prostate. Some of these men reported other side effects, including problems with ejaculation, breast swelling and/or tenderness and allergic reactions such as lip swelling and rash. In clinical studies with PROPECIA, these side effects occurred as often in men taking placebo as in those taking PROPECIA.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual effects.

- PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

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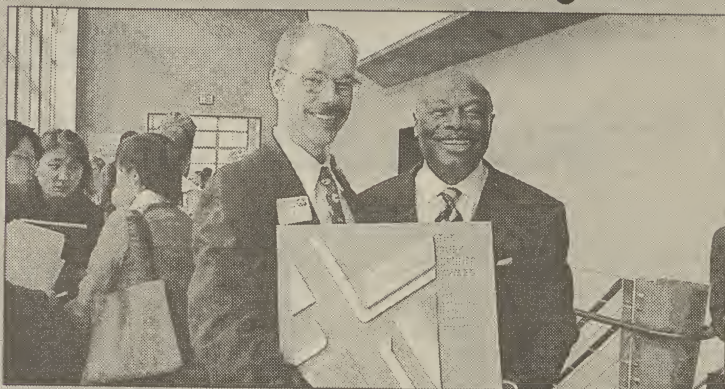
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Honor bestowed on AIDS grove



Thom Weyand, executive director of the National AIDS Memorial Grove, received the silver Rudy Bruner Foundation Award for urban excellence from Mayor Willie Brown on May 18. The award came with \$10,000, which the grove will use for its endowment fund. The Yerba Buena Redevelopment Project received the gold award, marking the first time two entities in the same city had received the foundation's top awards.

Domestic partners bill passes Senate in Sacto

United Press International

Legislation that would extend some rights typically enjoyed by married couples to same-sex domestic partners has advanced to the California Assembly.

The bill by state Senator Kevin Murray, (D-Culver City), passed on a 23-14 vote in the Senate Tuesday, May 25.

It would set up a statewide registry for domestic partners and extend to them hospital visitation and conservatorship rights, and survivors' benefits in wills, trusts,

and in probate court.

Senator Pete Knight, (R-Palm-dale), says the bill isn't needed since remedies already exist under present law for such activities but it represents an effort "to legalize same-sex couples, ultimately moving toward same-sex marriages."

He says tolerance of same-sex partnerships is "acceptable," but the bill would go beyond tolerance to promote it and undermine traditional male-female marriage.

But Senator Steve Peace, (D-San Diego), called it "an incredibly modest bill," and said it's

"ridiculous [to think] that some law we passed up here could threaten a marriage."

The measure is one of several awaiting action to require insurers to offer domestic partner coverage plans, add sexual orientation to school anti-discrimination protections and allow state and local agencies to extend health benefits to partners of public employees.

Knight is the author of the so-called "California Defense of Marriage Act," which would limit recognition of marriage in the state to couples of one man and one woman. ▼

GHB

◀ page 1

Stevens said that Ringland left the nightclub with friends and went to a party at 1166 Howard Street. Ringland continued drinking tequila and fell unconscious, and later went into convulsions.

"Her friends held her while she was convulsing and when the convulsing stopped, they laid her down on the floor with her head on a pillow," Stevens said. "Shortly thereafter her friends went to sleep and when they awoke Skylar wasn't breathing. They drove her to Mt. Zion Medical Center where she was pronounced dead at 13:45 [1:45 p.m.]."

According to information provided by Sherman Ackerson of the SFPD, Ringland's death could have been prevented if the friends had lied her on her side after her convulsions. "If someone ... is high or unconscious, call for help immediately after laying the person on their side to prevent aspiration," Ackerson warned.

A memorial service was held for Ringland April 8 at Club Rico in downtown San Francisco. She was cremated, and her ashes were flown to her birthplace in Colorado where her family will hold a placement ceremony.

Ringland was involved in the San Francisco music scene and "was instrumental in starting SF Records," according to Ringland's friend Jeff Taisch, who launched

the company 19 months ago. "Skylar was amazing at a lot of things," said Taisch, "designing websites with our company and she did a lot for the rave music scene in Northern California."

"We're all really upset about Skylar's death and it's sick that these things are happening, the overdoses and deaths from some drug possibly being slipped into somebody's drink," said Ringland's friend Darcey Kearney, also known as DJ DRC, of San Francisco. "I've seen a lot of OD's in the scene and drugs like GHB are causing too many problems. When we start to lose the ones we love, it's unacceptable and club owners need to make sure that their venues are safe."

Second death this year

GHB's popularity has steadily increased since 1994, around the time it was first rumored to be responsible for the death of actor River Phoenix, but many in San Francisco's gay community first learned of its dangers when the body of a local man was found in the South of Market area in January of this year. The name of that victim is still being withheld pending further investigation, but Stevens has confirmed that the man's body contained GHB and alcohol, as well as cocaine and ecstasy, when it was found between the End Up and the nightclub space 1015 Folsom.

Stevens said that the name of the victim will be released once

investigators determine whether foul play was involved in the victim's death. Ringland's name was immediately released — despite speculation that foul play may have been involved — because friends revealed valuable information on the circumstances surrounding her death.

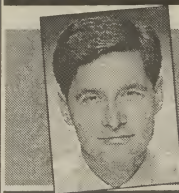
Ira Sanders, the owner of 1015 Folsom, telephoned the B.A.R. concerning the death in January, and expressed his club's policies on GHB. "We don't allow people to carry containers into our club," he said. "That's mainly the way GHB gets brought into a club."

SFPD investigators concur, and said in a GHB warning that it "is being brought in water bottles into clubs, where it is distributed among the patrons on the dance floor. It is suggested that doormen and bartenders of the clubs ask patrons to check all water bottles at the coat-check area. If the drink was not purchased at the bar, it should not be allowed into the club."

"We've had that policy for a long time," said Sanders. "I don't know what the End Up's policy is, but I think Karl Hanken [the owner of the End Up] is in denial and isn't responsible like we are."

Hanken did not return several calls for comment on Ringland's death, but after the first death was reported he told the B.A.R., "We run a pretty tight ship around here, and our security is tight." In subsequent conversations he has reiterated that the club does not allow illegal drug use. ▼

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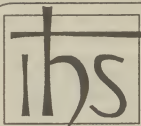


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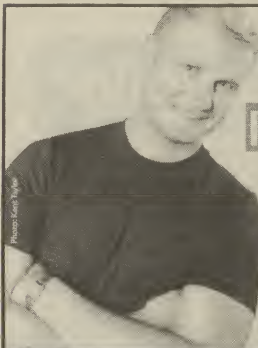
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Latino

◀ page 1

ment. Tickets are \$50 at the door. For more information, call (408) 271-6984.

Pro-Latino de San José is an umbrella group of the Billy De-Frank Center in San Jose; meetings are held the first, third, and fifth Mondays starting at 7 p.m. at the center, located at 175 Stockton Avenue.

Latino/a festival

The Queer Latino/a Festival starts Tuesday, with a visual arts exhibit that runs through June 23 at the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Art (MCCLA), 2868

Mission Street at 24th Street. The show will include paintings, photography, sculpture, and mixed media works curated by recognized community artists. A reception for artists takes place Saturday, June 5 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.; the cost is \$5.

For the second year, the Queer Latino/a Festival is under the umbrella of the National Queer Arts Festival. Organizers said the event "recognizes the intersections of culture, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality by showcasing the talents and contributions of the community it represents. The event is being curated by Juan Tam and Lucrecia Bermúdez. Tam is on the board of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender

(LGBT) Community Center Project; Bermúdez is a queer activist who's running for mayor.

On Saturday, June 5, it's the "Tranny Boys and Girls Romper Room," reading at MCCLA from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Transgender poets and writers will present their work.

Queer Latino/a pride month films at MCCLA start Thursday, June 10 with a screening of Miguel Arteta's bilingual *Straw Mats* at 7 p.m. On Sunday, June 20 the featured film at 11:30 a.m. is *Del Otro Lado*, directed by Crystal Griffith, with English subtitles. The event includes brunch, the film, and discussion. *Cuttin' It Up*, a local filmmakers showcase, takes place Thursday, June 24 starting at 7 p.m. Admission for each film is \$5.

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) Latino/a archives art exhibition takes place June 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, and 27 at *Galeria de la Raza*, 2857 24th Street. Co-sponsored with the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society and *Galeria de la Raza*, various LGBT Latino/a organizations are joining to exhibit various newspapers, photographs, and many other items that belong to some of the pioneers of the LGBT Latino/a movement in the Bay Area.

Instituto Familiar de la Raza will sponsor the Mr. and Ms. Safe Gay Latino at MCCLA Thursday, June 17 starting at 7 p.m.; admission is \$5. Organizers said many talented people will be competing in the contest.

Latino/a artists will be performing at MCCLA Saturday, June 19 under the direction of Gustavo Gravioto. The show is described as an extravaganza of

dancers, singers, poets, and many others who will come together to celebrate pride month. The show starts at 7 p.m. and admission is \$5. This year, Queer Latino/a Festival organizers will be honoring LGBT Latino/a artists of past performances.

A poetry reading is set for Friday, June 25 at *Galeria de la Raza* starting at 6:30 p.m.; admission is \$5. Poets and writers from the Bay Area, including Krisia Villon, Jamie Cortez, Lito Sandoval, and many others will participate.

Finally, a Latino style tea dance will round out the festival Sunday, June 27 starting at 5 p.m., following the Pride Parade. The event takes place at Roccapulco's Dancing Club, 3140 Mission Street. For \$10, people can enjoy some of the city's hottest Latino live music and DJs. Proceeds from the event will go toward the LGBT Community Center.

For more information on the Queer Latino/a Festival, call (415) 648-3702.

Proyecto events

Proyecto Contra SIDA Por Vida is also having some events next month. Cosmic Raza will perform "Armegettin' Down with Club Zoo and Noah's Ark (in drag)," with the first performance taking place Friday, June 4 at 7 p.m. as part of the "What is Art For?" show at the Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street, near the Lake Merritt BART station. Cosmic Raza is a queer people of color video performance collaborative, whose aim is to create representations of race, gender, and sexuality that resist binary systems of thought and cultivate the emergence of

subjectives with multiple identities that inspire cultural practices.

Cosmic Raza will perform with colored enTRANCES as part of the lecture series by Ricardo Bracho, a National Endowment for the Arts playwright in residents at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th Street at South Van Ness on Tuesday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m.

The group will also perform as part of the Queer Latino/a Festival Saturday, June 19.

Starting in June, Proyecto will present "Latino Flava," for gay, bisexual, and questioning Latinos age 25 and under. The group will meet the first and third Tuesday of the month from 7 to 9 p.m.; workshops and discussions will be held. Every second and fourth Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m., young queer Latinos are invited to kick back at Proyecto. Interested people should call Pedro at (415) 575-1642 for more information.

"*Vivir Para Contarlo y Gozarlo*," a discussion and workshop series for gay, bisexual, and questioning Latinos of all ages takes place every Thursday, starting June 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. and people can call Jorge at (415) 575-1648.

On Friday, June 11, Proyecto will hold its pride party showcasing performances by participants in "Latina," the agency's transgender program. The event is a kickoff for "Latino Flava." For more information, call (415) 575-1649.

Proyecto is located at 2973 16th Street at Mission, and is a sex-positive, neighborhood-based, multi-gender, Latino/a, gay, lesbian, and HIV service agency. ▼

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(1) AMERICAN JOURNAL OF OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY, 1996; (2) INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF FERTILITY, 1996; (3) CALIFORNIA LAVENDER SMOKEFREE PROJECT, CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION.

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Planning council spells out terms in bylaws amendment

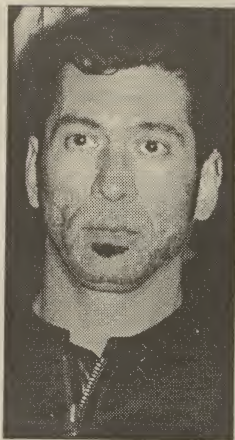
by Cynthia Laird

Members of the city's HIV Health Services Planning Council, consumed in a membership controversy with the mayor's office, overwhelmingly approved a bylaws amendment Monday, May 24 that specifically spells out terms of office and the process for nominating members.

The council, federally established by passage of the Ryan White CARE Act, has been upset with Mayor Willie Brown, who did not reappoint popular membership Co-chair Loras Ojeda or council Co-chair Tom Calvanese. Calvanese was subsequently sent a letter stating he could remain on the planning body until someone else is appointed to his seat. With Monday's action, approved 18-2, Calvanese's term would expire in September.

The planning council has spent much of its past two meetings debating the membership issue, and some members have met with the mayor's staff and others in an effort to resolve the dispute. The council is in the midst of prioritization for the next cycle of CARE funds.

"As I understand it, they're trying to come to agreement, and we are expecting to see a letter from the mayor," Calvanese said of his



Tom Calvanese

meeting with Brown administration officials and an aide to Supervisor Tom Ammann.

Ojeda was at the meeting and said he looks to the bylaws amendment, known as "Attachment A" as a way of strengthening the community planning process.

"It's really, really important to take a stand. I absolutely support this," said Councilmember Lisa O'Connor.

Councilmember Matthew

Sharp said he won't be convinced there's agreement with the mayor until he sees something in writing. "I'm going to call the mayor. Let's cut the crap," he added.

The attachment calls for two-year terms and staggers current membership to even and odd years. Once the council's membership committee reviews applicants, it forwards recommendations on to the full council, which then votes and sends the recommendations on to the mayor, who makes the final appointments. The attachment also calls for the council and the mayor to state a "clearly articulated justification" for rejecting recommended nominees. Councilmember John Conley worried that might invite litigation, but Calvanese said the language is straight from federal guidelines.

Prior to the council's discussion of the bylaws attachment, it heard from several members of the public who spoke in favor of the community planning process and against Brown's actions. Neither Ojeda nor Calvanese were given reasons why they weren't reappointed, but say it's over their vote on a mental health services issue last year. ▼

Stress & HIV

◀ page 1

ty of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine.

She added, "Along with considering the more biological aspects of AIDS, we should consider the relevance of psychological aspects of this illness."

Leserman said the study showed that for every increase in cumulative average stressful life events, equivalent to one severe stress or two moderate ones, the risk of AIDS doubled. Severe stress includes partners getting sick and having to do caretaking or breaking up a long-standing love relationship, and moderate stress includes repeated problems

with bosses.

"Our study suggests we need to improve the social support system for these men," she said.

The study covered 82 HIV-infected gay men over the five-plus year period. At the time they enrolled in the study, they did not yet have AIDS symptoms. At five-and-one-half years into the study, 33 percent of the men had developed AIDS. That means their CD4 immune system helper T-cell count fell to less than 200 or they developed an AIDS clinical condition.

So far, no similar long-term studies have been conducted on women with HIV, Leserman said.

The study was funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institutes of Health. ▼

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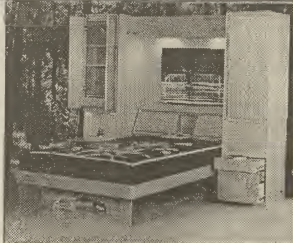
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Gay Health Care Since 1979

Supreme Court decisions affect gays

by Bob Roehr

A sharply divided U.S. Supreme Court ruled that school administrators are liable for the sexual harassment of students by their peers under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The case, known as *Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education*, was decided Monday, May 24.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, writing for the five-member majority, limited liability to where administrators act "with deliberate indifference to known acts of harassment" and where the harassment "is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively bars the victim's access to an educational opportunity or benefit."

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote a scathing dissent for the four-member minority. He argued that adolescent behavior is an accepted part of the school environment, and that the intent of Title IX was never to inject the federal government into the local classroom.

The National School Boards Association filed a brief in opposition to the case, but embraced the decision as a reasonable standard. Spokesperson Anne Bryant believes that the schools that implement "tough and clear sexual harassment policies" will not be vulnerable to law suits.

Beatrice Dohrn, legal director

for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, was pleased by the decision. But she noted a legal difference between sexual harassment and sexual orientation harassment.

"The line starts to blur in the context of schools," she said. "What we have is all kinds of very crude sexual and sexualized behavior and words. So it is rare that you have anti-gay harassment that you couldn't genuinely say is sexual harassment."

Reactions

"I'm jumping up and down with joy," said Rea Carey, executive director of the National Youth Advocacy Coalition. "It is an incredibly powerful decision for any student in school. The Supreme Court is saying that schools need to start listening to students."

Shannon Minter anxiously awaited the decision, concerned by the questions that the justices asked during oral arguments "that they were going to come down on the wrong side of this."

The attorney with the National Center for Lesbian Rights was "absolutely thrilled" by the outcome. "It is incredibly encouraging to see that Justice O'Connor really understood what was at stake," he said.

Minter is preparing the Flores case in California, a class action suit by a handful of lesbian and gay students who suffered anti-gay harassment. He said the symbolic value was just as important to his clients as is the legal value of the decision. "It sends a message that the Supreme Court does care about them."

Jim Anderson, spokesman for the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN), called the decision "a message that school officials can't afford to ignore."

Turning a deaf ear to sexual harassment could risk much needed federal funding."

He lamented that "more often than not, when schools create safe school plans, they often fail to remember that these policies need to include LGBT students. Unfortunately it takes the possible loss of federal funding to make that message resonate with them."

One administrator told the *Washington Post* that he couldn't imagine a situation where there would be repeated complaints and the school would not react.

"But I hear of those situations every single day," Carey said. "He can't imagine that, and yet gay students can't imagine the school responding in a positive way when they are being harassed. So there is some dissonance between the perception of some school administrators and the reality of gay youth in schools."

Minter added, "The biggest stumbling block is getting schools past their denial about this issue. It's astonishing how difficult it is to get that message home."

Carey urged the community "to take advantage of this historic opportunity and work in partnership with school systems to make sure that they do the right thing."

In the wake of school shootings such as that in Littleton, Colorado, Anderson said, "There is no such thing as a little safety. There is either safety for every student or there is no safety at all."

Disability

The Supreme Court also ruled that workers with disabilities do not lose the workplace protection of the Americans with Disabilities Act if they apply for Social Security Disability Insurance. The 9-0 decision on *Cleveland v. Policy*

page 27 ►

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Canadians redefine 'spouse'

United Press International

The Supreme Court of Canada has redefined the word "spouse" in Canadian law, saying it must apply to same-sex couples as much as to those of opposite sex.

The court's landmark ruling Thursday, May 20, came in a case involving a lesbian identified only as "M," who challenged the definition of spouse in Ontario's Family Act Law.

"M" had sought alimony after her relationship with a same-sex partner, "H," broke up. Ontario courts threw out her case, saying the provincial Family Act Law defined a "spouse" as a man or woman living with a person of the opposite sex in a marital relationship.

In its ruling last week, the Supreme Court said the Ontario law violated the Canadian Charter of Rights. The court gave the Ontario government six months to rewrite its legislation relating to marital rights.

The Supreme Court said, "The human dignity of individuals in same-sex relationships is violated by the legislation the way it stands now."

Gay rights activist John Fisher hailed the ruling, but family action groups said the Supreme

Court had made a mistake.

Martha McCarthy, the lawyer for "M," told reporters the ruling was "entirely symbolic," as her client had already reached a settlement under which "M" received a property settlement from "H," but had waived any rights to claim spousal support.

She said, however, the ruling was "an achievement for all people who care about equality."

At a press conference in Ottawa, Peter Stock of the Canadian Family Action Coalition, said, "Unelected judges are making decisions for all Canadians."

He said, "We believe this is a very serious problem for our country. Society, families, and institutions must be protected from rulings such as this, for the good of society and especially for our children."

"It's not up to unelected judges to write our laws and define terms such as spouse and marriage. Our elected representatives should overturn this decision by use of the notwithstanding clause."

He also accused the Supreme Court of interfering in the political process by announcing its decision when Ontario was in the midst of an election campaign.

Ontario Premier Mike Harris says he intends to comply with the Supreme Court ruling, if re-elected. ▼

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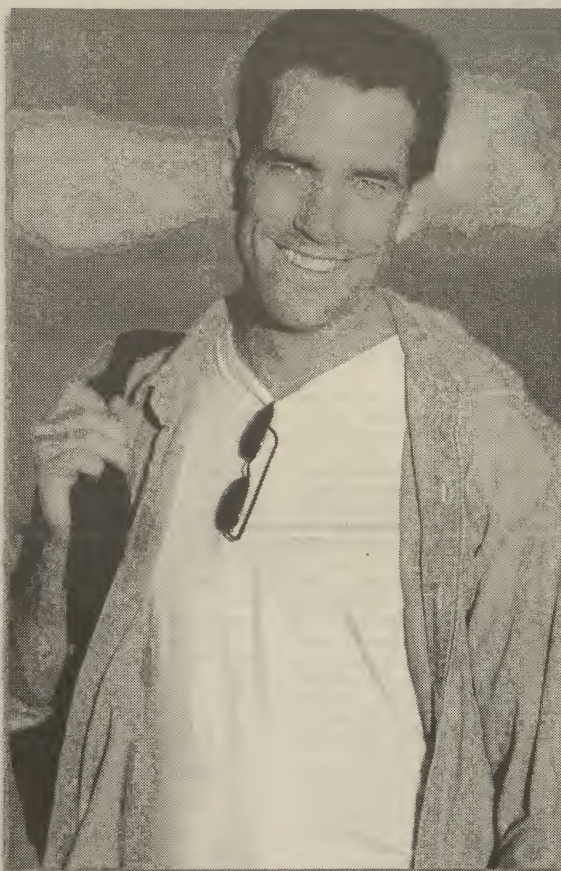
Human Growth Hormone combats the loss of lean body mass in ways other treatments don't.*

SEROSTIM is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia, in combination with antiviral therapy, based on analysis of intermediate effects in studies up to 12 weeks duration.

You may know that wasting robs a person of lean muscle and organ mass, and physical performance. But did you know that it can strike anyone with HIV? At any time? Even while your weight remains constant? That's because you could be adding fat to your body while still losing lean body mass (LBM).

If you are experiencing wasting, discuss with your doctor whether SEROSTIM—human growth hormone—might be right for you.

SEROSTIM rebuilds LBM and improves physical performance while reducing body fat. Studies show that without the LBM you need, you could become weaker, get sick more often and may not live as long as people who are not losing lean body mass; although the clinical significance of treatment-induced weight gain and increasing LBM have not been established. Physical performance was assessed by treadmill exercise testing. Grip strength, another measure of muscle performance may decline, probably due to increased tissue fullness, which sometimes occurs with growth hormone. Subjective assessment of performance was measured in a nine-point questionnaire. SEROSTIM showed significant improvements on two points—change in appearance and overall benefit of therapy—while results of the other measures were inconclusive. Patients who continue to lose weight in their first two weeks of therapy should be reevaluated.



SEROSTIM isn't a steroid, an appetite stimulant or nutritional supplement. It's a completely new anabolic (LBM building) and anti-catabolic (inhibits LBM breakdown) treatment that increases LBM and improves physical performance by interacting with a variety of cell types.

One way to know for sure if your treatment has restored LBM is to ask your doctor about BIA or Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. BIA measures body composition so changes in LBM can be monitored. It takes just 5 minutes and is completely painless. If your physician cannot provide BIA testing, ask him/her to call Serono at 800-714-2437 and a representative will help your physician gain access to a BIA system on your behalf.

People on SEROSTIM may observe side effects. In clinical trials, patients treated with SEROSTIM

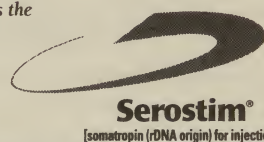
noticed muscle and joint soreness (53.7% vs. 33.3% for placebo) and swelling in the hands and feet (27.3% vs. 2.7% for placebo). Physicians rated these symptoms as mild-to-moderate, and in most cases they will subside with continued treatment. Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. SEROSTIM use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Also, SEROSTIM must be used along with anti-HIV drug therapy. Data related to interactions between SEROSTIM and anti-HIV treatments are not yet available.

Wasting is treatable. See your doctor or call the SEROSTIM Access Line at 800-714-2437 to find out about SEROSTIM's solution.



*Serostim is an anabolic and anticatabolic agent that works by interacting with specific receptors on a variety of cell types. For additional information about Serostim, please refer to the brief summary on the next page.

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SLI 98-8130

Serostim®

[somatotropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

BRIEF SUMMARY. SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION BEFORE PRESCRIBING.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Serostim® (somatotropin (rDNA origin) for injection) is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate endpoints in studies of up to 12 weeks in duration. Concomitant anti-viral therapy is necessary (see PRECAUTIONS: *General*). The continued use of Serostim treatment should be reevaluated in patients who continue to lose weight in the first two weeks of treatment.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Serostim is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to growth hormone.

PRECAUTIONS: *General:* Serostim therapy should be carried out under the regular guidance of a physician who is experienced in the diagnosis and management of AIDS. Inadequate nutritional intake, malabsorption and hypogonadism, which are common in individuals with AIDS and which may contribute to catabolism and weight loss, should also be monitored and treated.

HIV and Growth Hormone Considerations: In some experimental systems, recombinant human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been shown to potentiate HIV replication in vitro at concentrations ranging from 50-250 ng/ml. There was no increase in virus production when the antiretroviral agents, zidovudine, didanosine or lamivudine were added to the culture medium. Additional in vitro studies have shown that r-hGH does not interfere with the antiviral activity of zalcitabine or stavudine. In the controlled clinical trials, no significant growth hormone-associated increase in viral burden was observed. However, the protocol required all participants to be on concomitant nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of the study. In view of the potential for acceleration of virus replication, it is recommended that HIV+ patients be maintained on nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of Serostim treatment.

Increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly in the hands and feet) and musculoskeletal discomfort (pain, swelling and/or stiffness) may occur during treatment with Serostim, but may resolve spontaneously, with analgesic therapy, or after reducing the frequency of dosing (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Carpal tunnel syndrome may occur during treatment with Serostim. If the symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome do not resolve by decreasing the weekly number of doses of Serostim, it is recommended that treatment be discontinued.

Patients should be informed that allergic reactions are possible and that prompt medical attention should be sought if an allergic reaction occurs. None of the 188 study participants with AIDS wasting who were evaluable for antibody assessments and who were treated with Serostim for the first time developed detectable antibodies to growth hormone (≤ 4 µg binding). Patients were not rechallenged.

Recombinant Human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been associated with acute pancreatitis.

Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. Serostim use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Patients with other risk factors for glucose intolerance should be monitored closely during Serostim therapy.

No cases of intracranial hypertension (IH) have been observed among patients with AIDS wasting treated with Serostim. The syndrome of IH, with papilledema, visual changes, headache, and nausea and/or vomiting has been reported in a small number of children with growth failure treated with growth hormone products. Nevertheless, funduscopic evaluation of patients is recommended at the initiation and periodically during the course of Serostim therapy.

Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, and other malignancies are common in HIV+ individuals. There was no increase in the incidence of Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, or in the progression of cutaneous Kaposi's sarcoma in clinical studies of Serostim. Patients with internal KS lesions were excluded from the studies. Potential effects on other malignancies are unknown.

Information For Patients: Patients being treated with Serostim should be informed of the potential benefits and risks associated with treatment. Patients should be instructed to contact their physician should they experience any side effects or discomfort during treatment with Serostim. It is recommended that Serostim be administered using sterile, disposable syringes and needles. Patients should be thoroughly instructed in the importance of proper disposal and cautioned against any reuse of needles and syringes. An appropriate container for the disposal of used syringes and needles should be employed. Patients should be instructed to rotate injection sites to avoid lipodystrophy.

Drug Interactions: Formal in vitro drug interaction studies have not been conducted. No data are available on drug interactions between Serostim and HIV protease inhibitors or the non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term animal studies for carcinogenicity have not been performed with Serostim. There is no evidence from animal studies to date of Serostim-induced mutagenicity or impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category B. Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits. Doses up to 5 to 10 times the human dose, based on body surface area, have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to Serostim. There are, however, no adequate and well controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Women: It is not known whether Serostim is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Serostim is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use: In two small studies, 11 children with HIV associated failure to thrive were treated subcutaneously with human growth hormone. In one study, five children (age range, 6 to 17 years) were treated with 0.04 mg/kg/day for 26 weeks. In a second study, six children (age range, 8 to 14 years) were treated with 0.07 mg/kg/day for 4 weeks. Treatment appeared to be well tolerated in both studies. These preliminary data collected in a limited number of patients with HIV associated failure to thrive appear to be consistent with safety observations in growth hormone treated adults with AIDS wasting.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: In two placebo-controlled clinical trials in which 205 patients were treated with Serostim the most common adverse reactions judged to be associated with Serostim were musculoskeletal discomfort and increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly of the hands and feet) (see PRECAUTIONS: *General*). These symptoms were generally rated by investigators as mild to moderate in severity and usually subsided with continued treatment. Discontinuations as a result of these events were rare.

Because of the diverse clinical manifestations of AIDS, and the frequent occurrence of adverse events associated with underlying disease process, it was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with the administration of Serostim from underlying signs or symptoms of AIDS or associated intercurrent illnesses.

Clinical adverse events which occurred during the first 12 weeks of study in at least 10% of those who received Serostim during the two placebo-controlled trials are listed below by treatment group, without regard to causality assessment.

Table 2: Controlled Trials Adverse Events

Adverse Event	Serostim (n=205)	Placebo (n=150)
	%	%
Musculoskeletal discomfort	53.7	33.3
Fever	31.2	29.3
Increased tissue turgor	27.3	2.7
Diarrhea	25.9	20.0
Neuropathy	25.9	17.3
Nausea	25.9	16.0
Headache	19.0	20.7
Abdominal pain	17.1	18.7
Fatigue	17.1	16.0
Leukopenia	15.1	24.7
Albuminuria	15.1	9.3
Granulocytopenia	14.1	21.3
Lymphadenopathy	14.1	16.0
Increased sweating	14.1	8.7
Anorexia	12.2	9.3
Anemia	12.2	8.7
Vomiting	11.7	12.0
SGOT increased	11.7	6.0
Insomnia	11.2	9.3
Tachycardia	11.2	6.0
Hyperglycemia	10.2	6.0
SGPT increased	10.2	5.3

Adverse events that occurred in 1% to less than 10% of study participants receiving Serostim in the two placebo-controlled clinical efficacy studies are listed below by body system. The list of adverse events has been compiled regardless of causal relationship to Serostim.

Body as a Whole: rigors, flu-like symptoms, back pain, malaise, asthenia, carpal tunnel syndrome (see PRECAUTIONS: *General*). chest pain, hot flashes, allergic reaction. **Gastrointestinal System:** oral leukoplakia, flatulence, dyspepsia, dry mouth, constipation, ulcerative stomatitis, increased amylase, dysphagia, esophagitis, colitis, pancreatitis, rectal disorder, gastritis, tongue ulceration, gingivitis. **Musculoskeletal System:** muscle weakness. **Central and Peripheral Nervous System:** dizziness, convulsions, hypertonia, neuralgia, tremor, encephalopathy, nystagmus, meningism. **Respiratory System:** dyspnea, coughing, sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, rhinitis, pneumonia, bronchitis, increased sputum, respiratory disorder, bronchospasm, pneumonitis, pleurisy. **White Blood Cell and Reticuloendothelial System Disorders:** cervical lymphadenopathy, eosinophilia. **Skin and Appendages:** skin disorder, folliculitis, rash, alopecia, photosensitivity reaction, erythematous rash, pruritus, abnormal pigmentation, seborrhea, dermatitis, skin ulceration, acne, skin discoloration, verruca. **Psychiatric:** depression, anxiety, somnolence, nervousness, appetite increased, amnesia, abnormal thinking. **Metabolic and Nutritional:** hypertriglyceridemia, increased alkaline phosphatase, dehydration, increased creatinine phosphokinase, increased LDH, glycosuria, hypokalemia, cachexia, thirst, acidosis. **Immune System Dysfunction:** moniliasis, bacterial infection, Pneumocystis carinii infection, viral infection, infection, Herpes simplex, sepsis, abscess, fungal infection, Herpes zoster. **Urinary System:** hematuria, urinary tract infection, nocturia. **Liver and Biliary System:** abnormal hepatic function, hepatomegaly, hepatitis. **Vision:** retinitis, abnormal vision, photophobia. **Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting:** thrombocytopenia, purpura. **Cardiovascular, General:** abnormal ECG, heart murmur, hypertension, hypotension. **Application Site:** injection site pain, injection site reaction. **Neoplasms:** Kaposi's sarcoma. **Male Reproductive:** epididymitis, penis disorder, inguinal hernia. **Hearing and Vestibular:** earache, ear disorder, decreasing hearing. **Endocrine:** gynecomastia, male breast pain.

The types and incidences of adverse events reported in an open-label, extension trial and in a single, foreign trial, for up to one year, were not different from, or greater in frequency, than those observed in the primary, placebo-controlled, clinical trials.

OVERDOSAGE

Glucose intolerance can occur with overdosage. Long-term overdosage with growth hormone could result in signs and symptoms of acromegaly.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Serostim® (somatotropin (rDNA origin) for injection) should be administered subcutaneously daily at bedtime according to the following dosage recommendations:

Weight Range	Dose*
>55 kg	6 mg SC daily
45-55 kg	5 mg SC daily
35-45 kg	4 mg SC daily

*Based on an approximate daily dosage of 0.1 mg/kg.

In patients who weigh less than 35 kg, Serostim should be administered at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg subcutaneously daily at bedtime.

Dose reductions for side effects felt to be related to treatment with Serostim, which are unresponsive to symptomatic treatment, may be effected by reducing the total daily dose or the number of doses given per week.

In patients who continue to lose weight at week 2, reevaluate for concurrent opportunistic infections or other clinical events. Injection sites should be rotated.

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients with AIDS have not been established.

Each vial of Serostim 4 mg, 5 mg or 6 mg is reconstituted with 1 mL sterile water for injection. To reconstitute Serostim, inject the diluent into the vial of Serostim aiming the liquid against the glass vial wall. Swirl the vial with a gentle rotary motion until contents are dissolved completely. The Serostim solution should be clear immediately after reconstitution. **DO NOT INJECT** Serostim if the reconstituted product is cloudy immediately after reconstitution or refrigeration. Occasionally, after refrigeration, small colorless particles may be present in the Serostim solution. This is not unusual for proteins like Serostim.

STABILITY AND STORAGE

Before reconstitution: Serostim should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Expiration dates are stated on product labels.

After reconstitution: Use within 24 hours after reconstitution with diluent. The reconstituted solution should be stored under refrigerated conditions (36° - 46°F/2° - 8°C).

Sterile Diluent, 1 mL (Sterile Water for Injection, USP) should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Avoid freezing vials of Serostim and Sterile Diluent.

HOW SUPPLIED

Serostim is available in the following forms:

Serostim vials containing 4 mg (approximately 12 IU) somatotropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0004-7

Serostim vials containing 5 mg (approximately 15 IU) somatotropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0005-7

Serostim vials containing 6 mg (approximately 18 IU) somatotropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0006-7

Manufactured for: Serono Laboratories, Inc., Randolph, MA 02368

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

February 1998



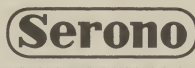
Serostim®

[somatotropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Thomas J. Martin

August 19, 1944 — May 1, 1999

Tom Martin died May 1, 1999 as a result of a head injury sustained in a sudden, tragic fall.

Tom was a 20-plus year resident of San Francisco. He was a "Pied Piper" and will be missed greatly and remem-

bered fondly by his legion of friends and acquaintances.

He was active in many charitable AIDS organizations, such as AIDS Emergency Fund, Every Penny Counts, and most particularly Project Open Hand. Tom was also a former member of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus.

Tom is survived by his parents, Oris and Mary, one brother, David, and several nieces and nephews. A private family service will be held in Indiana.

Contributions in memory of Tom Martin may be directed to: Project Open Hand, 730 Polk St., San Francisco, CA 94109.

Steven Alan Baker

July 17, 1957 — April 28, 1999

Steven passed away suddenly while gardening at his home on April 28. A



Piedmont native, he attended Piedmont High and excelled in track, swimming, and orchestra, going on to UC Berkeley. He was a senior IBM MVS programmer at EDS, Breuners, and Longs. Steven was admired and respected by his coworkers and management. His interests included: antique-toy collecting;

baking incredible desserts; home renovation; classic Cougars; and C&W dancing. Steven put up a brave, courageous battle against AIDS and participated in an experimental program at NIH. He remained positive and determined not to let his pain stop him from enjoying life.

Steven was a deeply sensitive, loving, and generous man who was devoted to his friends and family; his smile and charm will be deeply missed, but never forgotten. Steven leaves behind many loving family and friends, including: grandmother Marian Caruso; parents Deanna and Bill Baker; brothers Christopher, Brent, and Greg; sister Marilyn; and close friends Aleah Koury, Sam Singer, Roger Greene, Jeff Marshall, Robert Baker, and Tim Anderson. Memorial plans are pending; contact Sam at 759-5153.

Peace, Steven — we'll always love you.

Jared Joseph Robert Lohrey

1948 - 1999

Our brother, son, lover, kindred, and most of all best friend, was spirited from the planet on the love of friends and family at 5:19 p.m. on 5/19/1999.

Jared (AKA The Candy Man, Jar Head, Jelly Belly) is the thread that binds a huge network of friends and family. He had the most amazing talent

of being able to focus on what was special about each person, grabbing on to it, forcing it (warts and all) into the light of day and advertising it to anybody who would listen. People were Jared's passion. He was in wonder at what made people tick and got high on doing things for other people. His sardonic wit and ironic candor is legend with Sunday brunch patrons and staff of the Cliff House where Jared reigned over the front hall each Sunday for the last decade plus.

Jared didn't touch a life that isn't the richer because of it. Thank you Jared, for being there when no one else was, for thinking we were cool, for being vulnerable, for telling us what you really thought and not what we wanted to hear, and for leaving us with lessons and love that none of us could forget if we tried.

Bruce Smith

Bruce passed away unexpectedly on May 11, 1999 in San Francisco. Born November 16, 1958, he was the cherished



son of Dorothy Smith of Belfast, Maine. Bruce will long be remembered and admired for his wonderful sense of humor and quick wit, his deep love for his family and friends, and the gentle kindness

he showed his animals. Bruce was instrumental in starting the AIDS Project in Portland, Maine.

Services will be held in Maine on May 29. Donations in Bruce's memory may be made to Project Open Hand, 730 Polk St., S.F., CA 94109.

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What a difference a pill makes

by Phillip Alden, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

One man is in a North Beach restaurant bathroom when he suddenly becomes disoriented. He finds his way to the table where his partner sits, and the disorientation persists for another hour. He feels like he is on a bad acid trip.

Another man is stumbling down the block and is stopped by the police. They almost arrest him for public intoxication.

A third man, under treatment for depression and anxiety, suddenly finds his anxiety level rising even though he has taken his medication at the usual time. This same man falls into a depressive state and treats those around him like garbage for over a week.

These three men share two things in common; the first is that they all are living with HIV/AIDS, and the second is that they recently went on Sustiva, an antiviral drug made by DuPont Pharmaceuticals.

Sustiva can cause an otherwise emotionally healthy person to suddenly need anti-depressants.

Ryan (not his real name) wrote a letter to DuPont asking for any information they may have regarding psychotropic side effects of Sustiva. DuPont failed to respond to his letter.

"I wasn't looking to sue DuPont or anything like that," he says. "I just wanted to know what was causing these terrible emotional problems. They didn't even have the decency to send me a form letter."

Ryan, and the other two men in this story, are victims of serious psychotropic side-effects caused by Sustiva. Ryan had to double the amount of anti-anxiety medication he was on, and increase the dosage of his anti-depressant.

"It's bad enough that living with AIDS has its own terrible emotional cost," Ryan says, "now the drugs are [messing] with our

minds as well as our bodies."

A Bay Area doctor who wished to remain anonymous told this reporter that he has seen a significant number of his patients experience serious psychological side effects from Sustiva. A representative from DuPont, one of the guys who frequent doctor's offices to push product, told this doctor that there is "growing anecdotal evidence" that Sustiva can cause serious psychotropic side-effects.

As with all drugs, there are two factors at play here. The first is that Sustiva can cause an otherwise emotionally healthy person to suddenly need anti-depressants or other types of psychotropic medications. The second factor is that Sustiva can reduce the efficacy of some psychotropic medications, which means that people have to increase their dosages.

There are three ways a drug can affect the body:

1. The drug is well tolerated

and does, or does not do, exactly what it is supposed to do.

2. The patient will experience side effects. Some of these side effects may be well tolerated. These side effects are usually documented during the human trial phase of the drug's development and appear as warnings on the fact sheet accompanying the drug.

3. The drug causes an adverse drug reaction (ADR). An ADR may not be picked up in the human trial.

Drugs prescribed by your doctor can be as dangerous as illegal street drugs. Human trials catch some ADRs, but a drug's safety and efficacy is really determined over time. This means that all of us are guinea pigs for the pharmaceutical companies. If a drug has not been on the open market for a

number of years, it's still risky.

There is sufficient data on drugs like aspirin and penicillin because they have been on the market for decades, but a drug that has only been on the market for a few years is not necessarily safe.

Doctors rely on the drug companies for information about a new drug. This means that salespeople from the drug companies are their main source of information.

Salespeople tell doctors what their drugs do. Doctors are usually very busy, and many may take the salesperson's word at face value.

It's important to understand that doctors don't necessarily know the efficacy or the safety profile of drugs they prescribe. They know a lot, by virtue of their training and intimate knowledge of their patients, but they can be almost as ignorant as the patient when prescribing a new drug.

AIDS patients have a difficult row to hoe. As activists, they demanded the Food and Drug Administration "fast-track" approval for anti-AIDS drugs. They know that they are guinea pigs. In the desperate war against the disease, they are willing to take chances with new and very toxic drugs.

People who are not suffering from a life-threatening or chronic condition should take special care when asking their doctor about a new drug. Viagra has killed a number of people because of adverse drug interactions, especially in combination with nitrates. Doctors are hesitant to refuse a patient's request for a new drug. If doctor A is unwilling to give you the prescription you saw on television, doctor B will happily prescribe it for you. Both doctors and patients are aware of this, hence reluctance on the doctor's part to refuse a patient's prescription request.

Many doctors and their family members are wary of all drugs, and they avoid taking any kind of pill if there is another option. Their behavior should be model for us all. Not all drugs are bad, but it only takes one pill to change an ailment to a life-threatening situation. ▼



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That darn gravity

by Jim Provenzano

TRADGEDY STRIKES THE WWF — (headline from one of an estimated 170,000 on-line pro wrestling fan pages.)

"Lately, however, he's taken the execution thing a bit too far." — from "The Ross Report," a column about pro wrestler Bret Hart, brother of Canadian pro wrestler Owen Hart, who died after falling 50 feet from a cable lowered for his entrance at a WWF event Sunday, May 23 in Kansas City.

Rationalization #1: It should be remembered that Owen Hart died

of an unsafe stunt, not while engaged in athletic activity, per se.

Rationalization #2: It should be remembered, in the words of WWF's Vince McMahon, that the entertainment conglomerate he spawned is not really a sport, and "hasn't been since Abe Lincoln wrestled."

After his oft-performed dramatic entrance Sunday, Hart fell, snapped his neck on a turnbuckle and was pronounced dead. The WWF event continued 15 minutes later.



So much for "grief counseling" or "letting the healing begin." Pass that brewskie, dude.

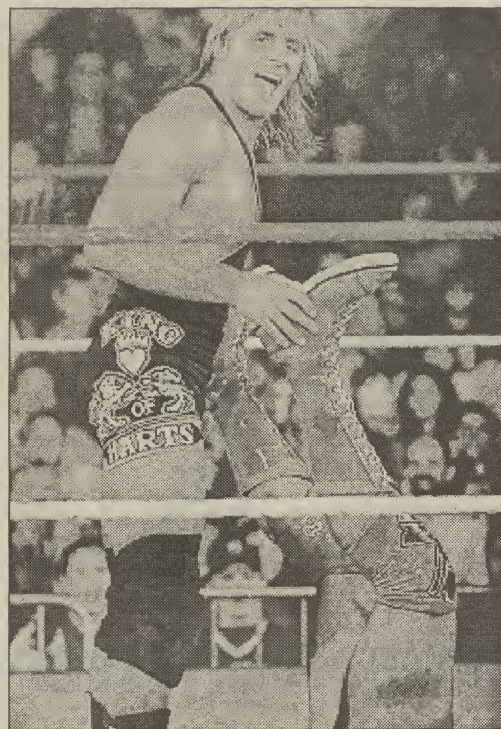
Coincidentally, the only 10 minutes of TV time I enjoyed last week was of the opening of *The Tonight Show*, where another — or possibly the same — Hart (there are seven — oops, six — such "performers" in their clan) stormed on to the set, knocking a security guard flat on his back (whether staged or real is irrelevant at this point). Hart threatened Jay Leno with violence in the usual manner. You could smell the chemically-enhanced rage all the way from L.A.

From the Midwest, Governor Jesse Ventura, sounding less impressive each day, was quoted as saying that pro wrestlers should now be respected for their efforts, opening that "they give their heart and soul."

And bodies, too.

The day the term for the noble sport of wrestling is taken away from that roided-out, chair-smashing pay-per-punch homoerotic/phobic burlesque that led to the death of one of its own oiled-up, stringy-haired, tight-donning divas will not only save lives, but the real sport itself. Pro wrestling as it is today, while amazing to some, stupid to others and profitable to an elite few, simultaneously gives violence and pornography a bad name.

In a culture where only mortality or adultery — or both — gets the nation's attention while glob-



The late Owen Hart, displaying what the 'F' stands for in WWF.

al genocide inspires benefit concerts, I can only offer my condolences to the Hart family, all of whom will probably offer a folk-kick or gut punch in memorium. No doubt the footage of this carnage is making the bootleg rounds, or else might even be broadcast in loops on *America's Favorite Sports Fatalities*.

But the Hart's grappling family, while releasing "stunned" press statements, most likely aren't. One of their own extended Hart Foundation™ clan, "Flyin' Brian" Pillman, died only two years ago in a Bloomington, Minnesota hotel room. The cause? Paid-off local cops still won't say. Hmm, let's see. Autoerotic asphyxiation? Wrong network. Suicide? Nope. Pillman's wife did that in 1995.

Said the now also-dead Owen Hart of his then-freshly dead compatriot, "There are so many phonies and superficial people in wrestling, but he was deep, intelligent, and sensitive."

Mat-ters more

In the realm of *real* wrestling, i.e. amateur type, this weekend offers a feast of fun for grappling queer gals, guys and their pals.

Every year it gets bigger and more folks learn mat tips at the annual Golden Gate Wrestling Club Memorial Day Weekend. Social events, Costco cuisine, and rules clinics with a Greco-Roman coach will be just part of the festivities. Whether you're a novice or a skilled athlete, this is simply

"the" Bay Area GLBT wrestling event. Bring your gear and \$25 to join USA Wrestling.

An added feature will include a road trip to Concord Pavilion for the Olympic Sport Expo also taking place this weekend. The expo will include the Concord Cup International Wrestling Tournament, featuring the talents of Olympic athletes from the U.S., France, Sweden, Cuba and other countries. Tickets are \$5-10.

Exhibitions and sporting goods displays, as well as demonstrations of judo, gymnastics, karate, fencing, and cycling, are among the jock-ular attractions.

For more info on Golden Gate's very safe, very non-professional event, contact the ever-vigilant Gene Dermody at (415) 821-2991, wrestler@pacbell.net, or visit their faboo website at <http://www.metaldesign.com/ggw/c/>

For more info on the Concord Cup and Sports Expo, call Concord Pavilion (2000 Kirker Pass Road) at (925-798-3318).

Court and spark

Also going on this weekend, the United States Gay Open Tennis Tournament includes matches mostly on City College courts, as well as other festivities for members and visiting tennis players. And if you think my column gets catty, you should read their newsletter! Find out more at (415) 263-5929 or their website: www.gltf.org/~gltf. ▼

Queer shelter

◀ page 4

geared toward queer youth.

"It's a big slap in the face to these kids," activist Tommi Avicoli Mecca told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "What do we do at this point? I'm not taking away from the temporary shelter, but why drop the ball?"

Robert Haaland agreed. "What's more important is getting the shelter re-opened until the permanent shelter is available," Haaland told the *B.A.R.* He and others plan to hold a community meeting next month with

the express purpose of getting the temporary shelter re-opened until the permanent shelter is up and running.

While Leno and Katz had good intentions in opening the temporary shelter, Haaland said it's "appalling" that the shelter has been closed.

Quoting Mark Twain's famous witticism, Haaland added, "The coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco." ▼

The community meeting takes place Monday, June 7 at 7 p.m. at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka Street.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Supreme Court

◀ page 22

Management Systems also came Monday.

Justice Stephen G. Breyer wrote that the laws "can comfortably exist side by side." He noted that it is common for people to simultaneously pursue two different legal approaches to an issue.

"This ruling spares people with disabilities from having to make the impossible choice between food and work," said Catherine Hanssens with Lambda. The organization had filed a brief with the court arguing this position.

The decision will be particularly useful for people with HIV who may seek to leave and reenter the workforce depending upon their illness.

Gay marriage

The previous week the court ruled in *Sanz v. Roe* that welfare recipients who move to another state cannot be penalized with payments lower than those given long term residents. In doing so it resurrected a long dormant provision of the 14th Amendment, the "privileges or immunities" clause, enacted after the Civil War to protect the rights of newly enfranchised black citizens when they traveled.

This principle could be very important in defending same-sex marriages once that right is won in one state. It would compel other states to recognize those marriages.

Lambda often has asked legal scholars of the utility of using this provision in strategizing to defend same-sex marriage. "We often got a lot of skepticism based on the dormancy of those theories and how long it had been since the court had applied the right to travel" to their decisions, Dohrn said.

She added that while they had not completed a full analysis of the *Sanz* decision, they were "superficially very happy" with it. Lambda and the community are awaiting decisions on gay marriage from state supreme courts in both Hawaii and Vermont. ▼

Transsexual cop

◀ page 5

cover damages for loss of employment-related opportunities, subject to proof, and the assessment of punitive damages. The actual figure Rivas would be entitled to were she to prevail in her suit is left to the court's discretion.

"I'm being denied 25 years' worth of employment," Rivas said, "which is where I come up with the formula for the \$4 million, which is actually conservative. You have to be very specific. We've been very careful to follow all the procedures. I'm citing very precise and obvious figures."

The first status conference on the matter is scheduled for late October, but Rivas told the *B.A.R.* that before the case is heard by a Superior Court judge she may or may not opt to go through an alternative dispute-resolution program that calls for arbitration, mediation, or early settlement. ▼

BAY AREA REPORTER
CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

STATMENT FILE NO. 231254

The following person(s) are doing business as, The Yoga Mat, 1126 Bush Street #405, San Francisco, CA. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Pearl Sarah Bates. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 5/3/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/03/99. MAY 13, 20, 27, JUNE 3 1999

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE. CASE NO: 271861

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Florence P. Chavis aka Florence Phyllis Chavis. A petition for probate has been filed by Ahmad A. Rasheed, in the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco, 400 McAllister Street San Francisco, CA. 94102. The petition for probate requests that Ahmad A. Rasheed, be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action). The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held on: June 1, 1999. Time: 9:00am Dept: #13, Room: #204. 400 McAllister Street San Francisco, CA. 94102. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections of file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for petitioner J. W. Macneil, Esq. Law Office of Justin W. Macneil, P. O. Box 26024 San Francisco, CA. 94126-6024 (415) 434-3490. MAY 13, 20, 27, JUNE 3 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 231333

The following person(s) are doing business as, Terence Works, 87 Sanchez Street, San Francisco, CA. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Terry L. Hopper. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/04/99. MAY 13, 20, 27, JUNE 3 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 231434

The following person(s) are doing business as, CTL 2261 Market Street Ste. #268 San Francisco, CA. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Blair Vermillion. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/07/99. MAY 13, 20, 27, JUNE 3 1999

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 303324

In the Matter of the Application of Thomas Emanuel Ross. For Change of Name. The application of Thomas Emanuel Ross, for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Thomas Emanuel Ross has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Thomas

Emanuel Rosenberg. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4/206 on the 17th day of June, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day on the 29th day of July, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

MAY 13, 20, 27, JUNE 3 1999

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 303335

In the Matter of the Application of Michael Joseph Sieradzki. For Change of Name. The application of Michael Joseph Sieradzki for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Michael Joseph Sieradzki has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Michael Joseph Sarid. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4/206 on the 17th day of June, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

MAY 13, 20, 27, JUNE 3 1999

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 303341

In the Matter of the Application of Leslie Booth Johnson. For Change of Name. The application of Leslie Booth Johnson for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Leslie Booth Johnson has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Bo Alexander Koch. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said mat-

ter do appear before this Court in department X-4/206 on the 17th day of June, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

MAY 13, 20, 27, JUNE 3 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 231406

The following person(s) are doing business as, Van Koll Realty, 1767 41st Avenue San Francisco, CA. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Robert James Van Koll. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 5/7/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/07/99. MAY 20, 27, JUNE 3, 10 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 231805

The following person(s) are doing business as, Stonewall Maintenance Company, 236 West Portal Avenue #240 San Francisco, CA. 94127. This business is conducted by a limited partnership, signed Matthew J. McCabe. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 4/15/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/20/99. MAY 27, JUNE 3, 10, 17 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 231860

The following person(s) are doing business as, E-Central, 2358 Market Street San Francisco, CA. 94114. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed David Bach. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on

5/1/99. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/24/99. MAY 27, JUNE 3, 10, 17 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 231829

The following person(s) are doing business as, Ristorante Merib, 598 Guerrero Street San Francisco, CA. 94110. This business is conducted by husband and wife, signed Woldeyesus A. Ogbu and Hadas Kibrom. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 05/21/99. MAY 27, JUNE 3, 10, 17 1999

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 303642

In the Matter of the Application of William Do. For Change of Name. The application of William Do, for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that William Do has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to William Do Pham. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4/206 on the 1st day of July, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

MAY 27, JUNE 3, 10, 17

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME: FILE NO: 229995

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: E-Central, 2358 Market Street San Francisco, CA. 94114. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 3/19/99. This business was conducted by: a individual David M Bach. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on: 5/24/99. MAY 27, JUNE 3, 10, 17 1999

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conducted by husband and wife, signed
Woldeyesus A. Ogbe and Hadas
Kibrom. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed
fictitious business name or names on
03/21/94. The statement was filed with
the County Clerk of the City and County of
San Francisco, CA on 05/21/99.
MAY 27, JUNE 3, 10, 17 1999

STATMENT FILE NO. 231816

The following person(s) are doing business
as, Fazz Copy Services. 36 Lydia Avenue
San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is
conducted by an individual, signed Frank
M. Yue. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed
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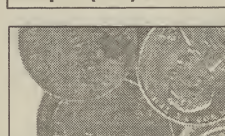
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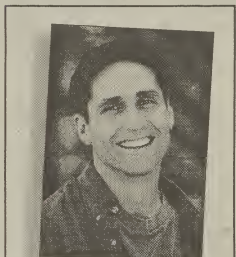
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HIV: Is anyone really positive?

On April 23, 1984 a retrovirus named HIV was announced to the world as "the probable cause of AIDS" by virologist Robert Gallo at an international press conference. That same day, Gallo filed a patent for an HIV antibody test and all funding for research into other possible causes of AIDS came to an abrupt halt. But serious concerns persist about the hasty and uncritical acceptance of HIV, a retrovirus with no known cell-killing mechanisms. Questions about the scientific proof that a virus is the cause of AIDS remain unanswered. Despite these doubts, "AIDS tests" are routinely used to administer death sentences.

AIDS Test Misleads Public

Contrary to popular belief, there is no such thing as an AIDS test. In fact, HIV tests do not identify HIV virus and cannot diagnose AIDS or predict illness. Instead, these tests detect antibodies found in the blood.

Antibodies are an important part of our immune system. They protect us from bacteria, viruses and other organisms that may otherwise cause harm. Before the notion of an AIDS virus, antibodies were considered a normal, healthy immune response and indicated protection from disease. However, since the advent of HIV testing, antibodies have been promoted as an alarming sign of current or impending illness and certain death from AIDS.

Are HIV Antibody Tests Reliable?

Although viewed as infallible, HIV antibody tests are, in fact, non-specific, non-standardized and highly unreliable.

Non-specific means the test responds to a great number of non-HIV antibodies, microbes, bacteria and other conditions often found in healthy people. A reaction to any of these antibodies or conditions will give an HIV positive result. Since no naturally occurring antibody is specific to any one disease, it is not possible to have a specific antibody test. This is why individuals in AIDS risk groups tend to frequently test positive — they have been exposed to many factors or conditions that caused their immune systems to produce a multitude of cross-reacting antibodies.

Another problem with HIV antibody tests is that there is no national or international standard for what constitutes a positive result. No agreement exists among the Centers for Disease Control (CDC),

Food and Drug Administration (FDA), World Health Organization, Red Cross and other agencies as to what makes an HIV test positive. Interpretation can also vary from country to country, state to state, city to city, and even lab to lab. In fact, someone who tests positive, and is therefore considered infected, may become uninfected by relocating to a country with different testing standards.

How Accurate is 99% Accurate?

Despite the tests' non-specificity, chance of cross-reactions and lack of verification by virus isolation, we are told these products are 99% accurate and that only 1% of people without antibodies to HIV will incorrectly test positive. Using the CDC's estimate that one in every 250 Americans is HIV antibody positive, if we test 100,000 people at random, 400 people should test HIV positive and 99,600 should test HIV negative. Applying the 1% error rate to the 99,600 HIV negative people means 996 of them will be incorrectly identified as HIV positive — that's over twice as many false positives as "true" positives!

Newer viral load tests thought to measure levels of actual virus do not. Instead, they detect and amplify genetic material and are not approved by the FDA for diagnostic use. Even the test's manufacturer notes "it is not intended to be used as a screening test for the presence of HIV..."

Don't Bet Your Life on the HIV Test

The next time AIDS advocates urge you to get tested ask why you should submit to a test that looks for what can't cause disease, that is non-specific, non-standardized and for which accuracy has never been established by the only means possible to determine accuracy — virus isolation.

Alive & Well AIDS Alternatives challenges the HIV hypothesis with scientific, medical and epidemiological information; promotes awareness of life-affirming facts; and was founded by HIV positives who live in wellness without AIDS drugs and without fear of AIDS.

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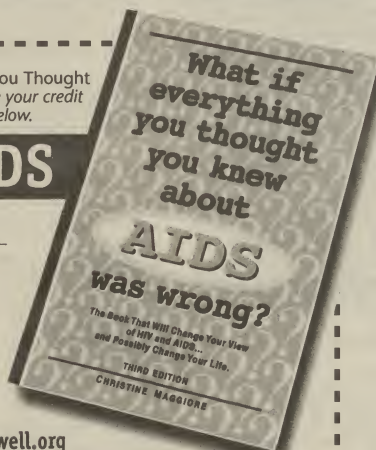


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Critics Culwell and Shank sample the latest Truffaut truffles at the Castro Theater, finding them a savory lot.

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Simon LeVay dissects the mind of Shakespeare, discovering its queer gene.

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Mighty Tilson Thomas rides the S.F. Symphony to a grand season finale.

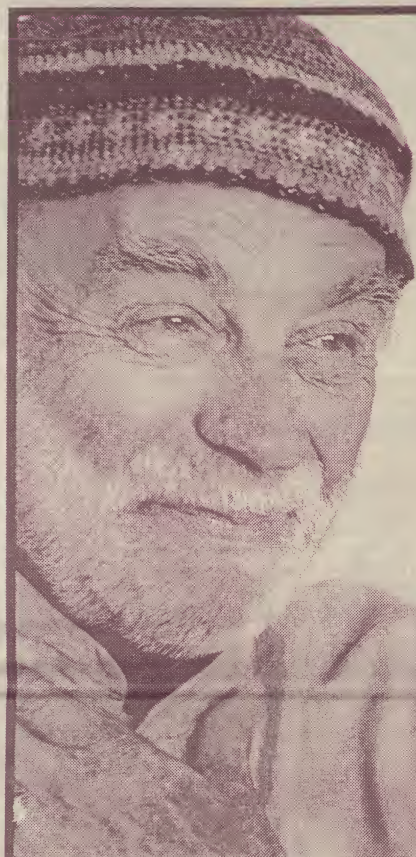
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 21 • 27 May 1999



James Broughton's legacy lives on The joy of James

by John F. Karr

I had just begun to write this week's review of some new porn video when the news came that James Broughton, the beloved old imp of poetry, had died, peacefully, at the age of 85, following a long and distressing illness. What better to do than to review Broughton's films? For although he was best known as a poet, Broughton first came to prominence as a filmmaker. He's been called "the grand classic master of Independent Cinema," and in 1989 was presented a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Film Institute. Broughton kind of created the American art film when he began making his films in 1948, and although some of his symbolic, autobiographical work can be a little murky, a bouquet of his subsequent films holds a continuing and timely appeal for gay men. Like his poems,

Broughton's films urge us to admit fuller sexualities into our lives, to explore the possibilities. *The Films of James Broughton* are available on two video anthologies, and I urge you to seek them out.

In a short hymn which he titled "The Secret Name of Cinema" is "Transformation," Broughton offered his credo for filmmaking, and it isn't much different from the creative gesture of his poetry. It begins:

Transform, transform,
anything everything....

One of the most typically playful of Broughton's films is *The Pleasure Garden*. Filmed in the ruins of the Crystal Palace Gardens in England, this celebration of love is a comic fairy tale in the style of a British pantomime. In it, a fat fairy godmother routs a puritanical Minister of Public Behavior, and bestows love

page 40 ►

Queer shorts at Cinematheque Wide-eyed wonders

by Gary Morris

For a couple of decades now, film and TV have been crucial tools in the reclaiming of queer identities from a traditionally hostile mainstream. And in spite of resistance in many quarters — there's the whole *Ellen* debacle, and throwbacks like *The Bird Cage* — progress is inevitable. Helping this process along in its unassuming, often venue-starved way is the queer short film. "Fitting In," a program curated by Karl Bruce Knapper for San Francisco Cinematheque's Eyes Wide Open series, offers an intriguing mix of these works.

Often dismissed as ephemeral, shorts have a freedom denied longer, more commercial forms. Sometimes this is the freedom to present controversial subjects, as in Paul Lee's interracial queer chamber piece, *Thick Lips Thin Lips*. Sometimes it's simply the freedom to present the same kinds of images and feelings the mainstream takes for granted, as in Jenni Olson's wistful paean to a straight girl, *Blue Diary*.

Words as queer as fuck

Perhaps it's merely serendipity, but much of this program is about the power of words in appropriating identity. Two of the films — John Lindell's *Put Your Lips Around Yes* and Kim Ladin's *New World Dictionary* — make this explicit. Lindell's film in particular is almost star-

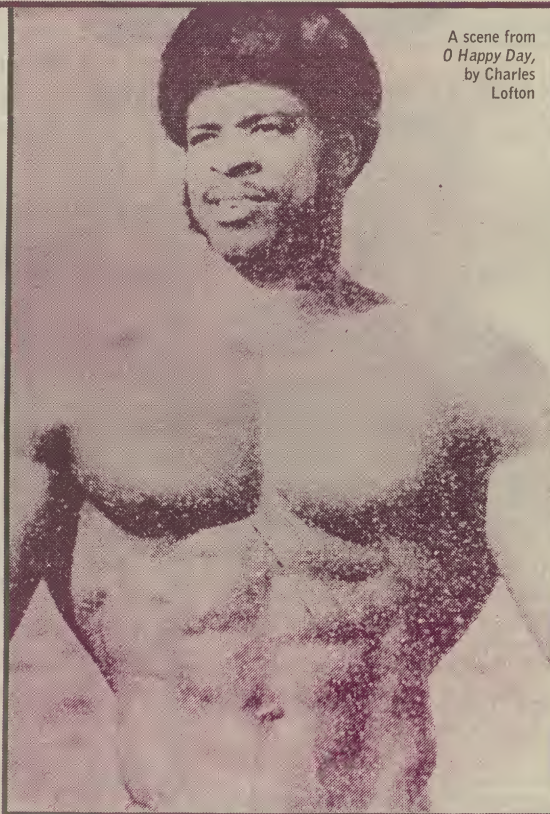
ting in its simplicity, a series of words like "dick" and "buttfuck" flashed at the viewer, inducing a kind of queer trance state. This is a refreshingly direct assertion of the primacy of "queer words."

Jenni Olson puts words to another use in *Blue Diary*. The diary format stretches back practically to the beginning of experimental film; here it takes the form of an overdub in which a lesbian recounts a fleeting encounter with a straight woman with whom she's smitten. The phrase "Fuck, Talk, Sleep, Fuck, Breakfast" appears onscreen, a sardonic reduction of an ultimately failed affair into its base elements. Painterly pastel images of a graveyard-quiet San Francisco add heft to this film, which at four minutes is even more fleeting than the one-night stand it describes.

In Paul Lee's *Thick Lips Thin Lips*, words are threats, but muted ones, gaybasher lingo vaguely heard behind images of two naked gay men — one Asian, one black — embracing and caressing each other in semi-darkness. Like Olson's film, this one has a painterly look, with the men in a kind of bliss state in spite of the threats around them, protected from lethal words and breaking glass by a kind of chiaroscuro lighting and the camera's resolute, respectful focus on them.

Not all the entries are this successful.

page 52 ►



A scene from
O Happy Day,
by Charles
Lofton

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Shakespeare in love ... not!

Seeking the queer truth about the Bard

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

We've been exposed to such a torrent of gay-themed movies recently, it's almost a relief to see one that deals with unconventional sexuality the old-fashioned way — by totally suppressing and ignoring it. Such is the approach of this year's Oscar winner, *Shakespeare in Love*, which has the Bard falling for — you guessed it — a woman! The film takes us back to the Golden Age of Hollywood, when non-heterosexual actors portrayed non-heterosexual historical figures engaged in standard

heterosexual romances. It was always intriguing to witness the feats of screenwriting and acting, and the general suspension of disbelief, that these transformations required.

Just in case some credulous moviegoer imagines that *Shakespeare in Love* offers a balanced picture of the Bard's sexuality, however, let's take a look at the evidence. Shakespeare was indeed married, and fathered three children. Of these, two were twins, so we have objective evidence for at least two acts of heterosexual intercourse over his lifetime.

More telling than his record as a parent, though, are the feelings expressed in his Sonnets. These are 154 fourteen-line poems published when he was 45, but probably written much earlier. The first 126 sonnets are addressed to a young man, identified in the printer's dedication as "Mr. W.H."; the remaining sonnets are addressed to an anonymous, dark-haired woman (not his wife, certainly). In the poems, Shakespeare expresses love toward each of these two individuals, but love of very different kinds.

The poems written to W.H. are full of extreme praise of W.H.'s physical beauty, but since they are addressed to W.H., they never bother to tell us what the young man actually looked like. In sonnet 20, however, Shakespeare says that W.H. has the appearance and personality of a woman, though without women's "falsity" (remember, this was four centuries before *Women's Lib*). The poem goes on: "And for a woman wert thou first created/Till Nature as she wrought thee fell a-doting/And by addition me of thee defeated/By adding one thing to my purpose nothing./But since she prick'd [pun intended] thee out for women's pleasure/Mine be thy love, and thy love's use their treasure."

Dark passion

The impression one gets from these poems was that Shakespeare was passionately in love with W.H., but that the affair remained physically unfulfilled, perhaps because W.H. was heterosexual. At any event, Shakespeare eventually began an affair with the Dark



Joseph Fiennes as William Shakespeare in the film *Shakespeare in Love*

Lady. The poems addressed to her portray her as completely lacking in physical charms ("In faith I do not love thee with mine eyes/For they in thee a thousand errors note"), yet Shakespeare was infatuated by her. The relationship seems to have been explicitly sexual, yet emotionally dishonest. Shakespeare expressed the paradox with a play on the word "lie", in the lines: "Therefore I lie with her, and she with me/And in our faults by lies we flattered be."

Although the relationship between Shakespeare and W.H. was initially idyllic, later poems accuse W.H. of, or forgive him for, an assortment of unspecified betrayals. The climax comes when W.H. takes up with, of all people, the Dark Lady. Shakespeare is consumed by suspicion, jealousy, and rage. It is the loss of W.H., not of his mistress, that concerns him: "To win me soon to hell, my female evil/Tempteth my better angel from my side/And would corrupt my saint to be a devil/Wooing his purity with her foul pride." The proof of W.H.'s infidelity will come, Shakespeare suggests, when W.H. contracts a venereal disease from the Dark Lady: "I guess one angel in another's hell/Yet this shall I ne'er know, but live in doubt/Till my bad angel fire [i.e., infect] my good one out."

We never find out what be-

comes of the strange threesome, or even whether W.H. catches the clap. Yet, however destructive became the relationships in which Shakespeare was involved, what remains memorable in his sonnets is something wonderful and universal: a man's passionate desire to immortalize the beauty of the man he loves. Shakespeare, as much as anyone, came close to fulfilling that desire. We know little of W.H.'s identity, and nothing of his looks, yet the mysterious young man has become for millions a kind of Unknown Beloved. As Shakespeare writes, "And thou in this shall find thy monument/When tyrants' crests and tombs of brass are spent."

So where did Shakespeare rank on the "Kinsey scale" of sexual orientation? Not a "zero," as *Shakespeare in Love* would have us believe, and not a "six" either. Even the word "bisexual" seems woefully inadequate to describe the fragmentation of his sexuality. Perhaps, if we could all be poets, we too would reveal the hidden complexity of our attractions. ▼

Simon LeVay is well known for his research on the "gay brain," and is the author of five books. He can be reached via his website at <http://members.aol.com/slevay>.

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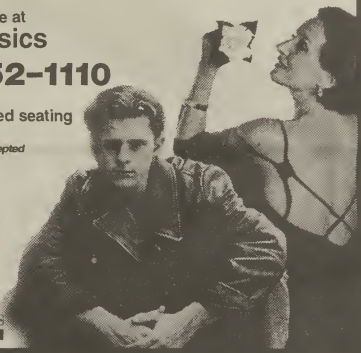
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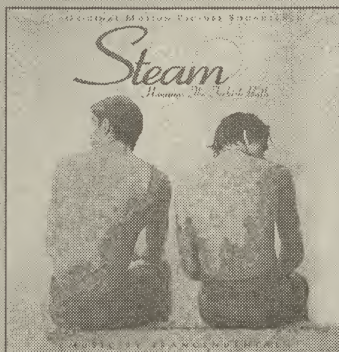
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If you saw the queer-themed film *Steam* in its recent local run, you heard the remarkable soundtrack by Trancendental, comprised of two Genoese composers, Aldo De Scalzi and Pivio. The two amply succeeded in their goal: "to create a new kind of trance music."

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—Mark Mardon

Steam (Hammam: The Turkish Bath), featuring music by Trancendental, 1997.

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FILM

Demme captures Byrne's best

The Talking Heads on film at the Lumiere

by John Blanco

Seeming both self-consciously arty and dubiously funky, the Talking Heads never meant as much to me as much as some of their New York new-wave/punk peers, such as the Ramones, Blondie and Richard Hell and the Voidoids. I wasn't truly won over by the group until after seeing Jonathan Demme's 1984 Talking Heads concert film, *Stop Making Sense*, which has been digitally remixed and remastered for its 15th anniversary re-release. The band's brilliant, spirited performance in the movie, compiled from footage of three shows at L.A.'s Pantages Theatre, is more than matched by Demme's inventive filmmaking.

Stop Making Sense does something so simple, so obvious and yet so novel for a rock 'n' roll concert film, and that is to concentrate solely on the music. Earlier documentaries like *Woodstock* and *Gimme Shelter* — the latter chronicling the Rolling Stones' infamous show at Altamont — looked at monumental rock events, not mere rock shows. Understandably, the two films were as much about the audience and the off-stage drama as they were about the music. Martin Scorsese kept the focus mainly on the songs throughout *The Last Waltz*, his nicely-shot film of The Band's 1976 farewell concert, but even this documentary cuts away from the show for some unnecessary band interviews.

In *Stop Making Sense*, there are no interviews, no backstage footage and almost no audience shots. In director Demme's mind, we are the audience.

"I wanted to create a roving 'best-seat-in-the-house,'" Demme said of his concept for the film in a 1984 interview with local writer Michael Sragow. "It's as if you were watching from the audience but could have any vantage point you wanted, on the basis of what was the most exciting thing happening at that moment."

A 'concept' concert

While Demme conceived the film, the concert itself was Talking Heads singer-guitarist David Byrne's brainchild, and it's every bit as conceptual as you'd expect from this former art-school student. The show's opening number, "Psycho Killer," features just Byrne, his guitar, and a boom-box on a bare stage. For each subsequent song, another band member joins Byrne — first bassist Tina Weymouth, then drummer Chris Frantz, and lastly guitarist-keyboardist Jerry Harrison. The structure of this early part of the show effectively spotlights each Talking Head as well as each element of the band's sound.

The stage eventually grows crowded with the addition of several back-up singers and musicians, including renowned keyboardist Bernie Worrell. The show also becomes more theatrical in its lighting and visual effects, although it's all charmingly low-tech, even by 1984 standards. A tall floor-lamp (as the single light source) and a

slide show of a jumbled images (body parts, dog paws, street scenes, bookcases) are an especially effective accompaniment to the beautiful, plaintive "Naive Melody (This Must Be the Place)."

That number probably best showcases how impossibly graceful a performer the tall, gawky Byrne can be. Towards the end of the song, Byrne does a lovely, dadaist pas de deux with the aforementioned floor lamp, swaying it back and forth with the elegance of Fred Astaire sweeping Cyd Charisse across the dance floor. Showing he can mimic classic rock 'n' rollers as well as movie song 'n' dance men, Byrne earlier in the film hunches down to play his guitar in a modified version of Chuck Berry's duck walk. This leads to one of the concert's best moments as he turns to face back-up singers Edna Holt and Lynn Maybry, who begin imitat-

ing him imitating Berry.

With five albums of solid material to draw from, this concert captures the Talking Heads at the perfect moment in their career. Watching the film, you can forget that Byrne ever unloaded the awful *True Stories* movie and its accompanying record on us. Watching it, we're not reminded of the band's forgettable swan song, 1988's *Naked*, or any of the members' mostly negligible subsequent solo work. Try to imagine if R.E.M. had hooked up a great director after 1992's *Automatic For The People*, or if the Replacements had done the same after 1985's *Tim*, and you get some sense of what *Stop Making Sense* offers us: a visual chronicle of a gifted band at their artistic peak. ▼

Stop Making Sense opens May 28 at the Lumiere. Call 352-0810.



David Byrne in a scene from Jonathan Demme's *Stop Making Sense*

Hugh Brown

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Catherine Deneuve in Fran  ois Truffaut's *The Last Metro*

Fran  ois Truffaut at the Castro Theater Deneuve and Depardieu ride 'The Last Metro'

by Chris Culwell

Fran  ois Truffaut was one of those rare directors whose career started out so triumphantly that the inevitable plunge into mediocrity seemed more like a catastrophic fall than a temporary lapse in judgment. Riding the crest of the *nouvelle vague*, Truffaut directed three films at the outset of his career that even the luckiest directors would be hard pressed to make in a lifetime of work - *The 400 Blows* (1959), *Shoot the Piano Player* (1960) and *Jules and Jim* (1961). What followed, alas, were often slick potboilers, as in *The Soft Skin* (1964), or as in *The Bride Wore Black* (1967), turgid odes to his muse, Alfred Hitchcock. There were other mishaps, too, all of them demonstrating the complexity of Truffaut's vision but also its splintered focus. *Day for Night* (1973) entertained pseudo-profundities of Marienbad-like proportions while *The Wild Child* (1969) found Truffaut playing unconvincingly with sociology. Though considered by some to be a thriller and a love story, *Mississippi Mermaid* (1969) is really more of an unintentional comedy, its shopworn mechanics ultimately providing too flimsy a vehicle for the outsize talents of its fabulous actors, Belmondo and Deneuve.

Indeed, it must have been difficult for Truffaut, who was only his 30s while most of these films were made, to confer unity over the many things he was as man and artist. Sensualist, psychologist, comedian, misanthrope, dreamer and realist, devotee of Hitchcock and Renoir, Truffaut's career was a struggle to sort through his many selves and influences to find those best-suited to his loose, improvisational style of filmmaking.

It's hard to imagine what Truffaut would have achieved had he not died of a brain tumor at age 52 in 1984. On the evidence of his films, however, it seems likely that, had he lived, Truffaut would have entered a new phase, one in which the fragmented concerns and enthusiasms of youth would find more coherent thematic expres-

sion. In fact, it's quite possible that the balance of his films would have looked like *The Last Metro* (1981), Truffaut's penultimate film and certainly one of his best. Though it boasts themes and stylistic ticks of earlier works — suspense, a preoccupation with psychology, melodrama, autobiographical flourishes, a bittersweet melancholy — *The Last Metro* is a cut above because for once the aesthetic trappings are embodied in a narrative free of junk.

Facing the Gestapo

Set in Nazi-occupied Paris, *The Last Metro* concerns a group of struggling thespians in the Theatre Montmartre. Catherine Deneuve plays Marion Steiner, a gelid ex-screen idol who is married to one of Paris' most brilliant writer-directors, Leo Steiner, whose latest play, "The Disappearance," is about to go into production. Fearing arrest for being a Jew, Steiner has taken up in the theatre's basement, and only Marion knows his whereabouts. At night, after the others have left, Marion and Leo meet in the basement to dine on meager meals and caress in the dark.

Marion and Leo aren't the only ones harboring a secret, however. The new leading man in "The Disappearance," played by Gerard Depardieu, is a member of the Resistance, though he has told no one. He struggles with the decision to act or fight, a conundrum only worsened when he discovers that he is in love with Marion, who, though she is barely aware of it, also desires him.

Things come to a head when an anti-Semitic theatre critic (Heinz Bennent) vaporizes Steiner's play in a review steeped in Nazi rhetoric. Angered by the notice, Depardieu beats the critic senseless in the streets, a foolish act that forces a showdown between the Gestapo and the Montmartre. In the film's most gripping scene, Marion is onstage performing when she learns during a scene change that two Gestapo agents have arrived and they want a tour of the theatre, including the basement. For several moments it's not clear if Marion is going to appease the goons in time or if they're going

to take matters into their own hands. Truffaut milks the sequence for all it's worth, yet it never throws the story off track.

Art overcomes terror

The setting and time of *The Last Metro* explain why the film is often mislabeled as "political," whatever that means. The film is really a love story, or more appropriately, about the power of love to flourish even under the most horrific, anti-life conditions. Despite what the war has forced upon them, Marion and Leo's love for each other thrives because their collaboration as artists is ultimately more sustaining than Hitler's will. And though Depardieu is caught up in what most of us would agree is a character-defining moment, he's beside himself with glee when in Marion's company.

But the keystone of the film is really the bond between Marion and Leo. He is so assured of her ultimate fidelity to him that he fairly pushes her into Depardieu's waiting arms so that she can experience the joy of seduction one more time before it's too late. Depardieu's steamy clinch with Deneuve is like the thawing of a great frozen lake, her subtle exclamations of pleasure presaging the liberation that would soon become an entire nation's cry of ecstasy.

That *The Last Metro* manages to avoid any trace of sentimentality is testimony to Truffaut's fleet pacing and disarming humor and naturalism. In many ways, the film marks a return to the lyrical style that characterized *Jules and Jim*, another film about that most Truffautian theme, triangulation. The cast here is exceptional, especially Depardieu, whose restrained and touching portrayal of a conflicted man reminds us that he wasn't always an unintelligible lug. Oh, and for those bereft souls who've never been susceptible to the manifold charms of Deneuve, beware, for the actress has never been more glamorous. Wear sunglasses. ▼

The Last Metro plays at the Castro Theater on Saturday, May 29 at 3:05pm and 7:50pm.

FILM

Truffaut's 'Adele H.' and 'The Woman Next Door' at the Castro

Selfish obsessions

by Will Shank

When the cheerful director of the tribute to filmmaking *Day for Night* and the delightful ode to childhood *Small Change* turned dark, he could be very dark indeed. Two of François Truffaut's most intense films address the matter of obsessive love, and the topic has never been handled better, or more single-mindedly. If a new biography of the auteur-director (*Truffaut*, by Antoine de Baecque and Serge Troubian) is to be believed, Truffaut himself knew something of tortured love affairs, as his relationships with cinema divas from Catherine Deneuve to Jeanne Moreau will attest.

Despite its routes in nineteenth-century romanticism, Truffaut's variation on the theme, *The Story of Adele H.*, set new ground when it was released in 1975. While not everyone is a romantic (my then-boyfriend Wes, may he rest in peace, thought the film was the stupidest thing he had ever seen), I was transfixed from the first to the last frame. In the tradition of the Romantic scenarios of the Brontës, Austen, Verdi, and Victor Hugo, the strong-willed heroine lives for, and risks dying of, love. In this case, the Hugo connection is particularly strong, since Adele H. is the somewhat fictionalized version of the youngest daughter of the great French novelist. The stunning young Isabelle Adjani is clearly riddled with anxiety, if not downright unbalanced, from the first scene where she rustles in her silks and satins into a Halifax boarding house in hot pursuit of her true love, a French soldier stationed abroad. The object of her affection, Lieutenant Pinson, is played by a handsome Brit, Bruce Robinson, whose only other well-known role was that of young Benvolio, Romeo's faithful sidekick in Zeffirelli's *Romeo and Juliet* (1968).

Already rejected by her paramour at the start of the film, Adele spends the next two hours

Gérard Depardieu and Fanny Ardant in *The Woman Next Door*

trying to hold together a few shreds of dignity as her sanity, along with financial support from her parents back in Europe, dwindles. Adjani embodies the essential selfishness of this sort of love, and the intensity of this obsessed young beauty is truly disquieting.

Parking-lot love

The Woman Next Door is the contemporary version of *Adele*, although it is well disguised by its cloak of suburban normalcy. Gérard Depardieu had not yet become a character actor in 1981; he was still a very clean-cut and sexy leading man. When sparks fly between his Bernard and the dark, sultry, statuesque Mathilde (Fanny Ardant, in real life, Truffaut's last lover and the mother of his child), you believe that they cannot keep their hands off each other. In spite of Mathilde's husband, Bernard's pregnant wife and child, and the scrutiny of their Grenoble suburban community, these former lovers who meet again by chance venture into dark and dangerous territory together.

Truffaut brilliantly stages an intense scene where the lovers

make it clear that their passion smolders as intensely as ever in the most mundane environment: the parking lot of a supermarket. The use of a third-person narration directly into the camera by one Madame Jouve (Veronique Silver), the middle-aged proprietor of the local tennis club, also proves to be an interesting plot device. And her story parallels that of the lovers when the viewer learns that she has a secret of her own involving a self-destructive love affair. Depardieu and Ardant do not learn from her story, however, and follow their own selfish path through their shared obsession. Never has self-destruction been more understandable or believable. ▼

The Woman Next Door plays Saturday, May 29 at 1pm, 5:40pm and 10:20pm. *The Story of Adele H.* plays Sunday, May 30 at 1:10pm, 5:05pm, and 9pm. Both at the Castro Theater.

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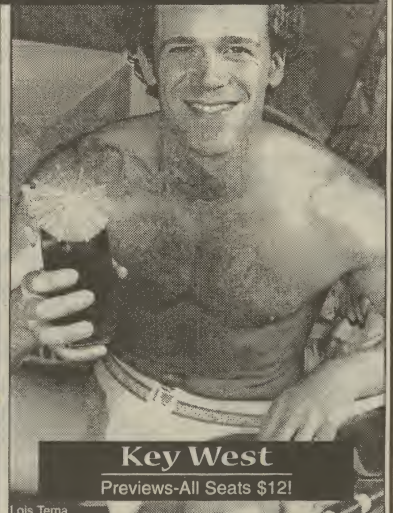


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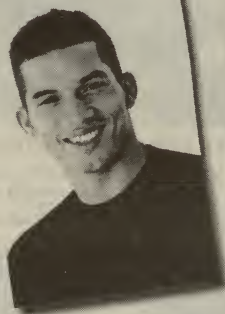
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Virtual trannies in heat

Peter Fogel and Kelly Kittell's 'Cyberotica!'

by Richard Dodds

It's been several years since sex in cyberspace was a cutting-edge topic, but *Cyberotica!* at least enters the web with more than a swimmer's build or a bubble butt. Now it's tranny-time on the net, a chance for the transgendered and those who love them to sing and dance and surf in the key of AOL.

Cyberotica! is playing a run of Thursday-night performances at the Transmission Theatre, a SoMa warehouse-turned-nightclub that has the right kind of loose feel for the hijinks at hand. Even when the energy is cranked up, the word "casual" comes to mind.

Our guide through the evening is Electra, played with a sultry ennuï by Arturo Galster as a kind of space-age Dusty Springfield. Outfitted in high boots and a Mylar bodysuit, the omnipresent Electra creates a chat room named Tranny Town Square into which the other characters enter with a variety of agendas.

The big and uncomplicated Opal (Pippi Lovestocking) and the elastic Maybelline (Steve LeMay) are plotting a revolution, as they explain in the song "Tranny Takeover." Then there is an undercover FBI agent (Laura LeBleu) who is "Looking for a Perv," while a straight nerd (Richard Neveu) is looking for vanilla lust in the song "I'm Coming On-Line." Caleb is a right-wing transsexual who is hosting a party for his cyber friends so he can "Kill Me a Tranny." And Trixie (Leigh Crow) isn't sure who she is, switching from hyper-housewife drag to macho-dude duds.

As Trixie, Crow gets to impressively belt out "Tell Me Who I Am," one of the stronger songs in the score by Peter Fogel, Christian Matthews, Tim Perdue, Jeff Mitchell, Birdie-Bob Watt and

Laura LeBleu, Pippi Lovestocking, and Leigh Crow in *Cyberotica!*

Kelly Kittell. The music often has the ersatz rock sound of a *Rocky Horror* or *Grease*, while the lyrics, to which the cast contributed, are short of surprises. "Sex in cyberspace is fun," goes one lyric. "We'll have a real good time."

Most of the songwriters are also in the robust five-piece on-stage band. Fogel, heard on lead guitar, is billed as the production's creator, while Kittell gets credit as author and director. Jean Spinosa's choreography occasionally helps add a kick, like when an un-

exciting song suddenly turns into a Tina Turner and the Ikettes number.

The transgendered subject matter may sound edgy for a musical, but that's not the vibe this show gives off. The fun here is pure-and-simple silly, even when it's (cross) dressed up. ▼

***Cyberotica!* plays Thursdays at the Transmission Theatre through July 29. Tickets are \$10. Call 861-6906.**

A little McNight music

Sharon McNight heats up Josie's

by Jim Van Buskirk

Sharon McNight is back in town. Not having seen her since the "old days," I was looking forward to the show at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, although I'll admit I was a bit chagrined to learn that she would be doing Country & Western. I needn't have been.

My first boyfriend, Bob Bendorff, was McNight's accompanist at the House of Harmony on Polkstrasse in the early '70s where I enjoyed her versions of "Hard Hearted Hannah" and "My Funny Valentine." She was brunette in those days, and already unstoppable. Later I learned she'd directed *Autobiography of a Flea* for the Mitchell Brothers. Then came her new blonde look and the Mae West schtick that accompanied it. As San Francisco's queen of cabaret, she held forth throughout the '70s at such popular venues as the Rainbow Cattle Company and Fanny's, and later did countless AIDS benefits.

Sometime between her 1989



Sharon McNight

Tony nomination for *Starmites* and *Red Hot Mama* — the fully produced stage version of the Sophie Tucker story which she wrote and produced — Sharon moved to Hollywood. The determined diva has performed all over the country, and the world. Last sea-

son she scored a success in the Peninsula Civic Light's *Hello, Dolly*, and for three weekends in July she'll reprise that role in her hometown of Modesto. She's at Josie's to promote her new album, *Now and Then*. Rumor has it she'll be at the Plush Room later this year. Like I said, unstoppable.

McNight was obviously glad to be back in the Castro as she strode onto Josie's tiny stage singing Tammy Wynette's anthem "Stand by Your Man." Her simple outfit with its bold Hawaiian print looked like comfy pajamas and the red dahlia in her platinum hair matched her mules. Her big voice is so powerful that she controls it by singing out of the left side of her mouth, until she's ready to let go and let 'er rip.

In the middle of Patsy Montana's "Cowboy's Sweetheart," McNight let out a yodel that ricocheted around the room.

"Take that Andrea Marcovicci!" she cackled with glee.

Swaying her hips, strutting, mincing and sashaying around the stage, McNight was definitely

next page ►

THEATRE

A ragged bit of clowning

Berkeley Rep's 'The First 100 Years'

by Richard Dodds

The opening moments of Geoff Hoyle's *The First 100 Years* are so much fun that it's a little surprising when spirits are lowered soon after. But, in strange way, they may not be lowered enough.

Some of the laughs may be designed to grow milder and more intermittent in the almost-one-man production, making way for a sad-clown poignancy that unfortunately only manages to skim the emotional surface. Despite a considerable display of invention on the Berkeley Rep stage, Hoyle's creation is occasionally stuck in a kind of neutral theatrical gear.

Hoyle, the veteran Bay Area performer with a background in new-age circuses, has crafted a tale on which to hang his big bag

of tricks. When we first see Hoyle, he is in a ragged easy-chair listening to a books-on-tape version of *Remembrances of Things Past*. And if that isn't clue enough for where we are headed, we soon learn that his character is named Jackie Proust and that he is remembering his past even as the present quite literally crumbles around him.

Through conversations with himself, old movies, and projected photos, Jackie Proust reveals his life, or at least the early part of it when he was an entertainer in English music halls and silent movies. His current circumstances are murky at first, forcing us to pull into focus the clutter around him as well as in his head.

Jackie, we realize, has become the phantom of an old abandoned theater, where his shtick is still appreciated and where memories can again become a fragile reality. But distant ominous rumblings periodically interrupt his reveries, leading to a wonderful visual climax that lets Jackie have a last laugh before facing an ominous future.

But as potent as the final im-

agery may be in director Tony Taccone's production, our hearts aren't particularly tugged. That's the case throughout the 90-minute show that regularly stops the laughter for moments that should be sweeter or sadder or tenderer than they are here. Hoyle, as fine as he is at dancing a jig with a bucket stuck on his foot or recreating bits of burlesque, doesn't bring the pathos of a Buster Keaton or a Bill Irwin, two other performers who have mined similar territory.

Hoyle is briefly joined on stage by his teen-age daughter Kailey as a silent wastrel sneaking about the abandoned theater. But not much is done with the relationship, and *The First 100 Years* wouldn't be much different without this filial affiliation. It's a problem indicative of what keeps the show from being more than a generally agreeable showcase for an accomplished clown. ▼

The First 100 Years plays at Berkeley Repertory Theatre through July 11. Tickets are \$34.50-\$45. Call 510-845-4700.



Playwright and performer Geoff Hoyle in *The First 100 Years*

Sharon McNight

◀ previous page

in control. She kept exhorting the tech person to bring up the lights, "but just enough to make Mother look thin and beautiful," she cracked. Under her breath she hissed incessant instructions to her obliging accompanist Michael Grossman, recruited from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

She was loath to announce that the new CD is not quite ready. But it will be in the next week or two, she assured us, and will include nine songs from her self-produced 1981 album, *Another Side of Sharon McNight* ("Then") along with nine newly recorded songs ("Now").

McNight's a powerhouse, at times invoking both Betties — Davis and Midler — and always poking fun at herself. I sensed it was all she could do to reign in her multiple personalities until sometimes snippets of Sophie Tucker, Betty Boop, or Judy Canova would excitedly escape. Teasing, taunting, and telling jokes — "The opposite of stressed backwards is desserts" — she was obviously having fun playing off the delighted audience.

The crowd went crazy when she crooned her own composition, "Put a Nickel in the Jukebox and Bring Back Patti Page." The show included a good mix of ballads and belters with a bit of twang in songs by Willie Nelson, K.T. Oslin, and Harry Nilsson. Tex William's "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke" was a camp delight. When asked whether we wanted to hear "Desperado" or Roy Orbison's "Crying," the audience voted for a moving rendition of the Orbison classic. A remarkably stirring version of "City of New Orleans" evoked the power, passion and patriotism I'd never before heard in the song.

McNight is already at work on her next album, this one of "anthems," and she gave us a sample: "The Impossible Dream" from *Man of La Mancha*. Celebrate the return of this devil diva: she's unstoppable. ▼

Sharon McNight performs at Josie's May 27-30 and June 3-6. Showtimes are Thursdays at 8pm, Friday and Saturdays at 8pm and 10pm, and Sundays at 6pm.

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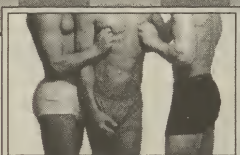


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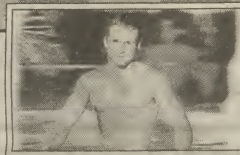


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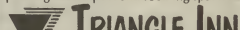
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From the Fillmore, Exit to the Magic

by Deborah Peifer

It's a little embarrassing to admit that I've lived here nine years and, before last Friday, had never been to The Fillmore. But now that I have, I look forward to visiting that venerable venue again soon—though I can't imagine any performer will be able to fill the theatre with her energy better than Lea DeLaria.

The evening was billed as the music-only portion of what will become her Broadway-bound evening of music and comedy, but, of course, DeLaria could not miss the opportunity to tell some old stories and to try out new comic material. DeLaria confessed to her unrequited love for Chelsea Clinton, a wonderfully funny piece that segued neatly (trust me) into a wonderful rendition of "Dancing on the Ceiling." Her deconstruction of the Judy Garland standard, "Get Happy," had the house rocking. And if you're wondering what it would be like to have sex with Lea DeLaria, you have only to hear, as our lucky souls did on Friday, her steamy and erotic version of "Lady, Be Good." The straight woman in the front row, to whom DeLaria sang the song, will never forget the experience of looking into those eyes, and hearing that growling, throaty whisper. Hell, I'll never forget it, and I was in the balcony. When DeLaria comes back with the completed, Broadway-ready show, don't you dare miss it, or you'll never forgive yourself. As for me, I'm angling for a front row seat.

Exit acting

We are so accustomed to thinking of Christina Augello as a producer (of the annual Fringe



Allyson Kulavis and Barry Levine in Exit Theatre's *Problem Child*

Festival) and as an artistic director (of Exit Theatre), that it's easy to forget that she started in the business as an actor. When I saw her name on the cast list for Exit's upcoming production of *Problem Child*, I just had to find out what was up.

Augello says she "started acting in grammar school, and then I went to New York, but I was side-tracked by the sixties."

After founding Exit Theatre, Augello was just too busy to think about acting, but "I realized when I was watching the Fringe shows last season that the actors were having lots of fun, and I missed that. I promised myself that I'd act in two shows a year." She plays "a self-righteous Christian social worker" in this selection from George F. Walker's

six-play cycle, *Suburban Motel*. Augello calls *Problem Child* dark and very funny, and hopes to do another of the plays from the cycle next season.

Between now and then, of course, is the Fringe Festival in September, the annual non-injured celebration of all things theatrical, which includes this year something that Augello calls "bring your own venue."

We're doing 51 shows this year, instead of the usual 50, because a Mexican company performs its show on a bus, and they're bringing their own bus."

While you're waiting for the bus, check out *Problem Child* at Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy, June 4-26. Call 673-3847.

next page ►

Broughton

◀ Arts cover

unions on the daydreaming strangers in a public park. At the sweet ending, everyone sings:

Love is a pleasure, please.
It's twice the pleasure
to come together
and make a pleasure for two.

Broughton's next film may be his most famous, and was appropriately made during the Summer of Love. It's *The Bed*, a saucy romp stressing the importance of beds in human affairs. "Everything important in life occurs upon a bed," Broughton wrote. "It's where you cry when you are born, and where you lie when dead." It's also where you make love, and the film features a lot of people doing just that. There's a good sampling of long-haired, free-limbed hippies on this bed, and a couple of well-known folks, like Alan Watts, and even Imogen Cunningham. The film was made in an Edenic place—an orchard on the mountain above Muir Woods, where a white wrought-iron bed magically appears for Adam and Eve to begin the dance of human history. The bed itself does most of the dancing, comically scampering across the sun-dappled Marin hills, urging all to make use of it.

In his next film, *The Golden Positions*, Broughton indulged his fascination with the naked human



A scene from James Broughton's *Devotions*

body in movement in a pseudo-documentary of undressed humanity. Parodying the Catholic Mass to celebrate the holiness of the physical body, the film reaches a finale of sublime erotic poses as a chorus sings a kyrie:

Body, have beauty upon us.
Spirit, have beauty upon us.
Your body be with you.
And with your spirit.

Several films later, Broughton got deeper in. If he had previously observed the body, now it was to be a terrain to explore. *Erogeny* was the result, a brief, hushed and breathlessly sensual caress by the camera of the body's contours,

while Broughton's voice on the soundtrack urges, "Reach...touch...discover my oases. Explore me."

To describe his penultimate film, *Devotions*, which he made in collaboration with his lover, Joel Singer, Broughton wrote, "If a man keeps wonder in his eye, compassion in his heart, frolic in his balls, and abandon in his limbs he can dance hand in hand with his life and his death and reap a full harvest of love." Filming 45 couples, the pair set out to show some of the ways that men could enjoy one another without resorting to the usually sanctioned male outlets of insult or aggression.

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TELEVISION

Guns and Rosie

The drama behind the Emmys

by Victoria A. Brownworth

The millennium really is over — Susan Lucci finally won an Emmy! After 19 nominations in her 26 years playing diva Erica Kane on ABC's *All My Children*, the biggest losing streak since the Mets ended in New York last Friday night at Madison Square Garden. No one seemed more shocked than La Lucci herself, who cried beautifully in the Erica Kane fashion that gleaned all those nominations. *Soigneur* as ever in a silvery spaghetti-strap sheath, the petite star gave a gracious speech that brought tears to every eye in the house. Certainly we were clutching our lace hanky.

Always the bridesmaid, never the bride, everyone feels sorry for La Lucci come Emmy night. In fact earlier in the evening one winner declared he couldn't accept his award while Lucci sat empty-handed. He leapt off the stage and gallantly offered her his Emmy.

Lucci started out as a day player on AMC — "I was only supposed to be on every other Tuesday," she declared in her acceptance speech. Initially thought to be "too ethnic" in the all-WASP world of the soaps, she soon became the darling of Pine Valley, and the rest is soap history.

Celebrity shootout

Other big winners at the Emmys included our favorite closet case, Rosie O'Donnell, to whom the talk show Emmy baton has been passed from daytime's diva, Oprah. Rosie won again for best talk show host as well as best talk show. For the Irish girl from Queens who used to suck lemon drops at Radio City Music Hall and dream of a career in show biz, a second Emmy really is the apex. Rosie sobbed, but when Lucci won, Rosie, La Lucci's number one fan, cried more than the star herself — and more than she had

at her own win. Ah, television. How would we feel without it?

Rosie was already making headlines even before she garnered a few more statuettes for her mantle when she took on Tom Selleck and the NRA. Don't be fooled by the elegant showing of class and camaraderie at the Emmys; daytime TV may have embraced Rosie Friday night, but things were quite different a few days earlier.

Selleck attempted to best his own unsurpassed record for asininity by barreling through a covey of TV talk shows touting his new movie with Ellen DeGeneres (*The Love Letter* — don't ask and definitely don't tell anyone to go see it) — oh, and his new role as poster boy for the NRA. Perhaps since Selleck now sports a full beard and rustic frontiersman drag he feels guns are a *must* to complete the outfit. We can't say. We did think he looked very Village People in his fireman drag in *Letter*, but who are we to judge? Maybe he's still caught up in the role that made him famous — Magnum — though we thought that was *Magnum, P.I.*, not *44 Magnum*.

Nevertheless, we were suitably horrified when he began his defense of Charlton Heston (oh, just send him back to the bulrushes) a few days after the Columbine massacre. Then, as 15-year-old Thomas Solomon was shooting classmates in Conyers, Georgia, Tommy Boy was taking aim at Rosie — to date the only TV maven other than *Politically Incorrect* hostess-with-the-mostest Bill Maher to read the NRA the riot act. Sometimes it takes a butch (or in Maher's case, a bitch) to do a man's job.

Rosie got into the shooting

match when she told Selleck she admired his work, but not his pro-gun stance. She accused him of using his celebrity to promote the NRA. He shouted himself hoarse calling her stupid while explaining the importance of the Second Amendment to her. Selleck then went from show to show over the next few days crying that she unfairly beat the crap out of him on national TV. Boo hoo —

just because she has a few pounds on him.... He could learn a few things about how to act from La Lucci.

And that ever spineless ABC vehicle for women who once had brains and knew what to do with them,

The View, ignored the issue altogether when Selleck guested post-Rosie. Excuse us, but doesn't Meredith Vieira whine about her children every third minute she's allowed to speak on that show? And isn't Barbara Walters always shaking her head melodramatically over violence in America? And wasn't Star Jones a District Attorney? At least Joyce Behar was honest with *Entertainment Tonight* when asked why no one at *The View* took Selleck on. Behar shrugged and admitted, "I guess we just weren't in the mood." Meanwhile that ditty twosome who daily prove the body can actually function without a brain, Regis and Kathie Lee, held Selleck's hand while he blasted Rosie. Well, Kathie Lee did name her kids Cody and Cassidy. Obviously she's closer to the gun lobby than we thought.

This small screen version of *High Noon* has Hollywood up in arms (pun intended), dissing our gal Rosie. Howard Stern led a posse to Rosie's studio and called her a hypocrite (and who better to target hypocrites?) because she's a

spokesperson for K-Mart and they sell guns. Controversy queens Oprah "where's the beef?" Winfrey and Jenny "I've got my own gun problems" Jones refused comment, though Winfrey was all touchy-feely with Rosie at the Emmys.

Kudos to Wendy Riche, producer of ABC's top-rated soap, *General Hospital*. When *GH* won the Emmy for best daytime drama for the second year in a row, Riche used her air time to applaud Rosie for being the only person on daytime to speak out against guns. Riche went on to say producers and writers on TV must pay attention to how they write their stories. No doubt ABC will kick Riche's butt over this moment of conscience. Meanwhile, stay tuned for more salvos. Rumor has it the NRA plans a boycott of Rosie's show — and sponsors. Pampers, look out!

Soapy endings

Beyond the shootout at the O'Donnell corral, it was season-finales week at the networks. Kelly got her own gun — and used it against her rapist — on Fox's *90210*, while *The X-Files* left Mulder in the madhouse and Scully staring at alien architecture.

In a change of pace, ABC's *NYPD Blue* went for pedophilia and a violent cliffhanger. Sorenson (Rick Schroder) captured a pedophile preying on homeless boys — but we're sure there's more to this story and Sorenson's response than this episode explored. As for the finale — when Chekov's gun went off in the last ten minutes, Sylvia (Sharon Lawrence) and "gay John" (Bill Brochtrup) were bullet-ridden. Since Brochtrup just made the leap from day player to ensemble character, we doubt he'll die between now and September. But as the only queer adult character in a drama on network TV (speaking of which, whatever happened to

the gayness of Doc Hancock on *Chicago Hope*?), the outcome of this finale will be a source of nail-biting till summer's end.

Meanwhile, Julia's (Neve Campbell) flirtation with Perry (Olivia D'abo) and lesbianism is over on *Party of Five*. Nice while it lasted. Expect to see Jennifer Love Hewitt in a spin-off next season; her days with Bailey are numbered. And anyone invested in Bayliss's bisexuality on *Homicide* — or any other storyline: The show's been canceled. They never should have let Andre Braugher go.

And speaking of people who shouldn't have been let go, *ER* has the summer to find someone hunky as George Clooney to fill the big void left by his departure. The storylines get suckier every week — and so does the scenery.

The scenery is the only thing that doesn't suck on *Dawson's Creek*. The girls are cute and fey, but kids, kids, kids — you are tedious beyond belief. If you like babysitting, watch. Jack is still queer and everyone is still dealing with the aftershocks. Personally, we find *Teletubbies* less enervating. But only just. (And could Tinky Winky get a little more careful about where he leaves his purse? It's bad enough it doesn't match his outfit, but a careless queen is an unhappy queen.)

Finally, who would have thought the queerest season finale would be not *Will & Grace* but *Saturday Night Live*? Sarah-Michelle Gellar, aka "Buffy, the Vampire Slayer," hosted and did a fabu job. That girl can act. There was a lesbian bit in her monologue and a few more queer skits as well as a queer cartoon. Is *SNL* trying to tell us something these days? Or are its producers just stoking their ratings while Howard Stern shows T & A in the same time slot?

Guess we'll have to wait till next season to find out. ▼



Lavender Tube

Curtain Up!

◀ previous page

Irish women, redux

The Festival of Irish Women Playwrights last month was such a success at Magic Theatre that the hit of the festival, *Stones in His Pockets*, is being given a full production as the Magic's final show of this season. I had a chance to speak with director, Kent Nicholson, who also directed the workshop production.

"When we were reading scripts for the festival," Nicholson explains, "I gravitated to *Stones*. It's an innately theatrical piece that relies heavily on theatrical conventions. We have two characters playing multiple roles, something that you can only do on stage. You see the transitions take place right in front of you. The play is very funny, but at its center the play is about the clash of culture and the commodification of culture. The play is about two Irishmen working as extras on a Hollywood movie being filmed in Ireland. [Playwright] James Jones was here for the Festival, and we really workshoped the script. She made cuts and changes and did lots of rewrites. This production will be the first time that this version is being done. The play is a

little different from the work that gets done in the Bay Area. The perspective is different because we get to see America through Irish eyes. It's a very funny, wild ride."

Stones runs June 2 through July 3 at Magic Theatre, Fort Mason. Call 441-8822.

On the run

The fabulous Sara Felder's fabulous *Shrick!* is extended through June 13 at A Traveling Jewish Theatre, 470 Florida (at Mariposa). Don't miss what may be Felder's last Bay Area appearance (she and her partner are relocating to Israel) in her best show ever. Call 399-1809.

Erin Cressida Wilson is a writer of astonishing depth, complexity and power. Rhodessa Jones is a director who can find every nuance in a script, and get performances out of her actors that astonish even themselves. Wilson's new play, *The Trail of Her Inner Thigh*, receives its world premiere at Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia, directed by Jones. This one has "must see" written all over it. The play runs June 2-28. Call 626-3311. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a performative nature, send them to peifer@aol.com or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

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Nazi kid & loser lovers

by Will Shank

Apt Pupil, Directed by Bryan Singer

Director Singer, who gave us the brilliant *The Usual Suspects* a few seasons back, is off his mark with *Apt Pupil*, an exercise in psychological terror whose major flaw is a lack of character motivation throughout. Although it is expertly directed, the screenplay strains at the old credibility in almost every scene. Why would high school student Brad Renfro be so fascinated with the nasty old Nazi living in his neighborhood? Why would the guidance counselor ever consent to a bizarre arrangement to transfer the boy to his grandfather's care, with so little information about



Jared Harris and Jane Adams in Todd Solondz' *Happiness*

the family? Scenes are set up awkwardly between characters: a homeless man who has to wind up as a victim of the Nazi launches into an extremely unlikely conversation with a stranger, for instance.

While Sir Ian McKellen is always worth watching, and he does Evil as well as any actor alive (see *Richard III*), he is ill-matched by Renfro, who, although competent, is a lightweight in every way. As a Bad Seed, he is completely unbelievable. Most disturbing about *Apt Pupil*, though, is the not-so-subtle subcurrent that equates homosexuality, real or implied, with evil. Is the guidance counselor up to some closeted seduction of his students? Is the homeless man being violently punished for giv-

ing in to a same-sex advance? These homophobic subplots are as upsetting as the blatant malevolence of the Nazi on the run.

Happiness, directed by Todd Solondz; Trimark Home Video

If you saw his poignant and upsetting *Welcome to the Dollhouse*, you know that Todd Solondz's work is all about the *Revenge of the Nerds*. In *Happiness* he creates a *ronde* of singularly un-happy characters who are looking for love in all the wrong places. There is a slimy obscene phone caller, an extra-large Miss Lonelyhearts, a bored psychiatrist, a suicidal jilted suitor. The ensemble cast is anchored by a trio of sisters, one of whom has nothing, and two of whom appears to have everything (one a stable family life, and the other a glamorous jet-set existence, as well as great sex with beautiful men). Or do they? The much-publicized inclusion of Hollywood's first husband who is also a pederast (Dylan Baker) throws a wrench into the life of Mrs. Housewife. His appearance also sets a brilliant and disturbing precedent in a major film. Solondz tells his story without judging him, and his scenes with and about his young boys are excruciatingly difficult to watch. Enough humor is inserted among the scenes of cruelty between people to provide some relief, and the overall effect is brilliant. An added pleasure is a set of cameos by Louise Lasser and Ben Gazzara as the sisters' parents. ▼

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Broughton

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Although there are lots of body parts in Broughton's films, they aren't porno. You may encounter a boner or two, but you won't see graphic depictions of the old in/out. Yet they have something almost totally lacking in commercial porn: the joy of sex, the laugh at orgasm, the cosmic happiness of the big squirt. So although I urge everyone to own and adore Broughton's poetry, collected in the book *Packing Up For Paradise*, you shouldn't miss seeing his films at least once. Technically, and, most importantly, in their spirit, they have informed my expectations for the more graphic, commercial porn I also wouldn't want to be without. But Broughton reminds us of the heart and happiness that belong to us in sex in a way that porn rarely does. So, goodbye, James—and thanks for the bountiful "Hello's" you've left us. ▼

MTT rules!

SF Symphony season a smash hit

by Philip Campbell

The San Francisco Symphony season ends this week with performances of Bruckner's towering Symphony No. 9 and his grand choral *Te Deum*. This ruminative and sometimes sprawling composer is not one we ordinarily associate with Michael Tilson Thomas, but then there is nothing ordinary about MTT and he continues to broaden his repertoire with amazing agility. If anyone can organize and render Bruckner's final, unfinished work with clarity and heart, it is our amazing Music Director.

Recent weeks at Davies Hall have seen some wildly differing pieces in bravura performances that have showcased the maestro's uncanny knack for inhabiting the sound-world of whatever composer he chooses. He has a well known affinity for 20th century writers, of course, and it has yielded some particularly memorable evenings.

French composer Maurice Ravel would seem a natural for MTT—witty, urbane and lyrical, though perhaps a bit too restrained. Still, his dreamy and amusing one-act opera *L'enfant et les sortilèges* (*The Child and the Magic Spell*) proved a tour-de-force in the hands of the conductor and his gal pal, mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade, singing and acting the role of The Child. Given in a semi-staged concert

version with theatrical lighting and helpful (if frightfully blunt) English supertitles, this *L'enfant* seemed a little more menacing than usual, but it was full of comic touches and tender emotion. The alternately fanciful and frightening realm of early youth was vividly portrayed, and the final moments of contrition from the naughty child were wonderfully innocent and sweet.



David Herbert

The first half of that concert included William Kraft's 1983 Timpani Concerto and it gave the orchestra's own David Herbert an opportunity to debut as a soloist. Herbert, who joined the SFS in 1994, certainly proved the wisdom of his hiring. The score is a rip-roaring crowdpleaser, and he managed it with breathtaking ease.

Last week, the microphones were back in place as Tilson Thomas and players continued with their series of recorded, live performances for BMG Classics/RCA Red Seal. An all Copland "Americana" concert will eventually bookend the already released Copland: *The Modernist* disc.

In Lennie's footsteps

The mantle of the late (and forever great) Leonard Bernstein has come to rest with a distinctive cut on the shoulders of Michael Tilson Thomas. Past his bad-boy years, but still happy to stir things up occasionally, this now fully mature artist has some surprising things to say about the Aaron

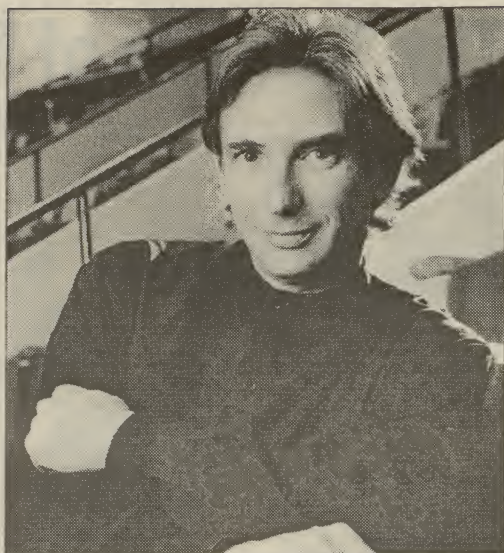
Copland most listeners know and love best. Where Bernstein often went for the sentimentality, MTT takes a more measured and dry-eyed look at the achingly beautiful melodies and rambunctious syncopations of *Appalachian Spring* and the Suite from *Billy the Kid*.

A fondly remembered concert with Bernstein in almost unbearably theatrical form had shaped my idea of how the old Shaker tune "Simple Gifts" should sound in *Appalachian Spring*. Now, I find Tilson Thomas's slightly stoic approach more appropriate, and his edgier silences conjure a real sense of contemporary urban encroachment. Such fresh insights into this score and the instantly recognizable melodies of Four Dance Episodes from *Rodeo* rescue both American treasures from the limbo of "pops" concerts and remind us of Copland's originality and genius.

This will be a Copland disc that startles listeners in this country and enhances the world's view of an acknowledged national treasure.

Now, while we're on the subject of MTT's San Francisco Symphony recordings...

Igor Stravinsky, *The Firebird/The Rite of Spring/Persephone*—San Francisco Symphony Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor, Various Soloists (BMG Classics/RCA Red Seal)



Michael Tilson Thomas

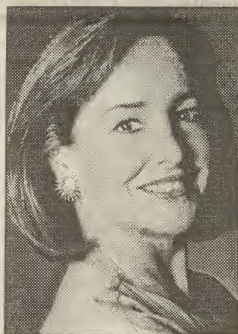
Just in time for the Stravinsky Festival, June 10-26, at Davies Symphony Hall and Grace Cathedral, BMG Classics has released a spectacular three-disc set of the modern composer's two most famous ballet scores and a suave and intriguing cantata.

Surprisingly, MTT is much more subdued on disc in this repertoire than he has been in the concert hall. The results are, arguably, better suited for repeated listenings, but I confess to missing some of the earthshaking savagery of his live *Le Sacre du printemps*. Still, *L'Oiseau de feu* sounds fabulously plush and makes a good argument for hearing

the score complete, rather than the more usual concert suite.

Persephone also comes out a real winner, as we can savor the words at leisure and revel in Stravinsky's superb instrumentation. The soloists are a fine team with excellent contributions by the SFS Chorus, San Francisco Girls Chorus, and Ragazzi, The Peninsula Boys Chorus.

Snap up this handsomely packaged, specially priced set before attending the festival. It's guaranteed to restore your faith in the Bay Area as a music capital, and whet your appetite for an orgy of Stravinsky. ▼



Frederica von Stade

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The tragedy of Ramon Novarro

New bio traces gay star's fall from Hollywood grace



Joan Crawford and Ramon Novarro in *Across to Singapore*, 1928

by Matthew Kennedy

Ramon Novarro by Allan R. Ellenberger; McFarland & Company, \$42.50.

Ramon Novarro (1899-1968) would not make it as a sex symbol today, at least not without a personal trainer. He was too soft and effeminate for our era's hard-bodied ideal of masculine pulchritude. But with a face so handsome and warm it could melt polar ice caps, he won legions of fans in silent movies. Gifted with smashing good looks of Aztec and Spanish origins, he combined a boyish emotionalism and chivalry with romantic ardor to winning effect. Screaming crowds followed him everywhere. Fan clubs sprang up worldwide. For a time, only Valentino held more fantasies for more people.

The public and private man never came together as Novarro's story became one of the all-time great gay Hollywood tragedies. His life is such formulaic miniseries drama that it seems almost unbelievable, what with revolution, deep spirituality, loving family, epochal stardom, alcoholism, slow descent into obscurity, oblivion, prostitution and murder as

key ingredients. Now Allan R. Ellenberger tells it all in *Ramon Novarro*, a new biography from McFarland.

Born Ramon Samaniego in Durango, Mexico, Novarro escaped the Mexican Revolution and settled in Southern California. By 1915, he drifted into extra work in Hollywood. As Ellenberger demonstrates, Novarro was too pretty not to be noticed, even in crowd scenes. His notoriety grew, and by 1922 he had roles in well-known silent movies such as *The Prisoner of Zenda* and *Where the Pavement Ends*, which paired him with the radiant Alice Terry. She, along with Myrna Loy and his cousin Dolores Del Rio, became the corps of female friends that stayed by him even as he slid so disastrously from fame.

He was on hand as a contractee for the inauguration of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1924, and was then cast as the studio's *Ben-Hur*. It was to be the costliest and most problem-plagued movie yet made. Cost overruns and on-location accidental deaths recall a silent debacle to rival the making of 20th Century Fox's *Cleopatra* in the early 1960s. But *Ben-Hur* (1925) became an enormous hit,

book with painful regularity, became ever more difficult to hide from reporters. And his brand of masculinity was waning with the rise of the tough Yankee he-men Clark Gable and James Cagney.

Dropped from MGM in 1935, Novarro embarked on a successful concert career. He invested wisely and never worried about cash flow, but his love of drink and fondness for blue-collar men got him in trouble. The details are lost to time, but Ellenberger does what he can to piece together brief love affairs and nameless tricks through the years. In all his life, Novarro apparently never pledged himself to one man at a time.

Novarro attempted film comebacks, but grew more comfortable with minor character roles such as the Cuban revolutionary in John Huston's *We Were Strangers* (1949) or the tyrannical colonel in Richard Brooks' *Crisis* (1950). Later still, he appeared irregularly as a token aging Latino on television's *Bonanza*, *The Wild, Wild West* and *The High Chaparral*. By then, he was barely recognizable and frail from alcoholism and low blood pressure.

Today, more people know Novarro for his death than for his

Ben-Hur is still thrilling today, a ripe mixture of religious faith, homoeroticism, and grand spectacle. Novarro rode his own chariot for the famous race at Circus Maximus, and it stands as a superior accomplishment to the copycat race in the 1959 remake.

and Novarro's popularity went through the roof. He gave a sensitive performance as the heroic Jewish galley slave who takes on the pagan Roman Empire as personified by luggish Francis X. Bushman. *Ben-Hur* is still thrilling today, a ripe mixture of religious faith, homoeroticism, and grand spectacle. Novarro rode his own chariot against Bushman for the famous race at Circus Maximus, and it stands as a superior accomplishment to the copycat race in the 1959 remake. (It must stick in the craw of pistol-parkin', homo-hatin' Charlton Heston that his most honored role was essayed to finer results by a gay man.)

Among queens

Novarro continued to enjoy major roles for several years, paired opposite MGM's reigning glamour queens Norma Shearer (*The Student Prince in Old Heidelberg*), Joan Crawford (*Across to Singapore*) and Renee Adoree (*The Pagan*). He was not destroyed by sound, he indeed had a pleasant tenor suitable for talking or singing, and went on to star with Greta Garbo in *Mata Hari*, Loy in *The Barbarian* and Jeanette MacDonald in *The Cat and the Fiddle*.

The slide took hold in the mid 1930s. His homosexuality was torturous to him and at odds with his devout Catholicism. He kept it a secret from most everyone, but refused to marry a "beard" to appease his fans, his family or Louis B. Mayer. His drunk driving arrests, outlined in Ellenberger's

gorgeous *Ben-Hur* man-boy. On Halloween Eve in 1968, he was fatally bludgeoned in his Hollywood Hills home by two hustling brothers from Chicago who showed no mercy for the "old queer." The murder became the stuff of legend, and included a rumor that Novarro was struck or raped by a black lead dildo given to him by Valentino. Ellenberger puts that story to rest, but pieces together Novarro's last moments in blood-stopping detail with the help of newspaper articles, interviews and courtroom testimony. The man who asked for nothing more than privacy, and who had been largely forgotten for over 30 years, was now outed in every front-page obituary across the land.

Ramon Novarro is a captivating read; the chapters and paragraphs are short so as to invite page-turning. It's sketchy in parts, the 1950s fly by in six pages, and important supporting characters (Terry, lover Richard Halliburton) don't have developed personalities. But Ellenberger provides an exhaustive filmography, complete with profit and loss statements, sample reviews and credits all the way down to the second cameraman on *Mata Hari*. He is clearly devoted to the memory of his subject and makes a case for Novarro as a fascinating, frightening casualty of intolerance, self-destruction and fleeting stardom. ▼

Matthew Kennedy is the author of *Marie Dressler: A Biography*, also from McFarland.

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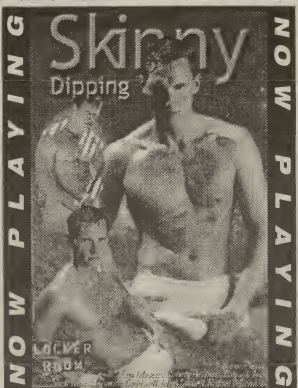
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BOOKS

Laughing with lesbians

by Deborah Peifer

Bruised Fruit by Anna Livia;
Firebrand, \$13.95

The arrival of a new novel by Anna Livia (*Minimax, Relatively Norma, Incidents Involving Warmth*, among others) is cause for rejoicing among all of us who love well-crafted fiction filled with unforgettable characters. *Bruised Fruit* is an extraordinary novel, with (almost) enough humor to make us forget about the horrors Livia has to tell us about. I never imagined a writer could take child abuse and find wickedly black comedy there, but Livia has, with the skill to keep us laughing even as she shows us the horror, despair, and plain terror felt by the abused child. I guarantee that if you read the first chapter in the bookstore, you will buy the book and take it home, because you will *have* to know what happens next.

Patti is the abused child who becomes a powerful, albeit, murderous adult. Her connection to Sydney, the hermaphrodite, and to Carolyn, a British lesbian escaping an abusive relationship, is filled (indeed packed) with the very stuff of life. When all three end up in a San Francisco boarding house, their lives collide in titanic proportions. Throughout the novel, Livia's characters (major and minor) face the world and its myriad absurdities with honor, with humor, and with homicide when necessary. Livia creates impossible situations and preposterous coincidences and makes us accept them because her

characters do, and we absolutely believe in them.

Livia comments on our modern world with an acute sense of the ridiculous. She describes Patti,

"...you could water the garden, do the dishes, and mow the lawn while you were masturbating."

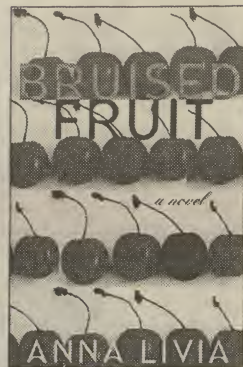
for example, as having "one fatal flaw in her make-up: she was not only blonde, she was beautiful...

Modern beauty is a hidden disability of which the wounds go every bit as deep as those etched into the psyche of Adult Children with Trust Funds, and Patti was

destined to suffer from both calamities." Caroline discovers Good Vibrations (yes, San Fran-

cisco's very own sex-toy emporium), with "a thousand different kinds of vibrators with every sort of attachment: you could water the garden, do the dishes, and mow the lawn while you were masturbating." Livia pokes gentle fun, all the while asking us to look again at those things that have become familiar and, therefore, invisible.

Bruised Fruit will have you laughing even while you plan the revolution. Entertaining, thought-provoking, sexy and smart — this is a book for everyone, and I suspect it will change



the way you look at just about everything. ▼

Purr-fect drivel

by Deborah Peifer

Cat on the Scent by Rita Mae Brown and Sneaky Pie Brown;
Bantam, \$23.95

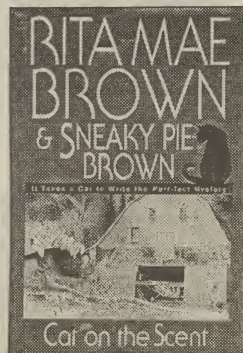
This time the cats drive a car — not just any car, a Porsche; not just any Porsche, a standard. So the cats have to shift gears and steer while the dog handles the gas pedal, the brake pedal, and the clutch. Brown's been writing these faux mysteries for quite a while, and her animal characters do the solving. Given the ease with which anyone can solve them, the books reflect less the intelligence of the pets than the stupidity of the human characters. Now I'll confess to enjoying the first of

Brown's cat adventures that I read — sure, the plot was moronic and the human characters flat and lifeless, but I thought Mrs. Murphy, the cat, and Tucker, the dog, were entertaining.

I've now read several of these novels, and each is worse than the last. Brown's plots, never a strong point, reach the depths of pointlessness and worse, incoherence, in *Cat on the Scent*. The human characters are virtually inextinguishable from one another, to the point that I now understand why Brown provides a cast of characters at the beginning of the novel. It's clearly because there is no other way to keep track of who anyone is or why they matter at all. The animal cuteness

of the earlier books has become so cloying that the book jacket should feature a prominent warning label for diabetics.

Brown slips some of her own feelings about taxes and government regulation into the novel with the subtlety of an avalanche. Her observations add nothing whatever to developing character or furthering the plot, and could easily have been printed in a little pamphlet and inserted into the book. Her thoughts on those topics are rightward leaning, so much so that it's possible that Brown has finally acquired enough money to become a Republican. *Cat on the Scent* was assigned to me for review by my editor, who apparent-



ly has more of a death wish than I knew. If he turns up bludgeoned after the release of Brown's next catastrophe (pun intended), well, you won't have to look far for the culprit. ▼

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Calendare

by Andrew Huang



The Half Baked Players star in *The Duboce Triangle*.

Soap dishes

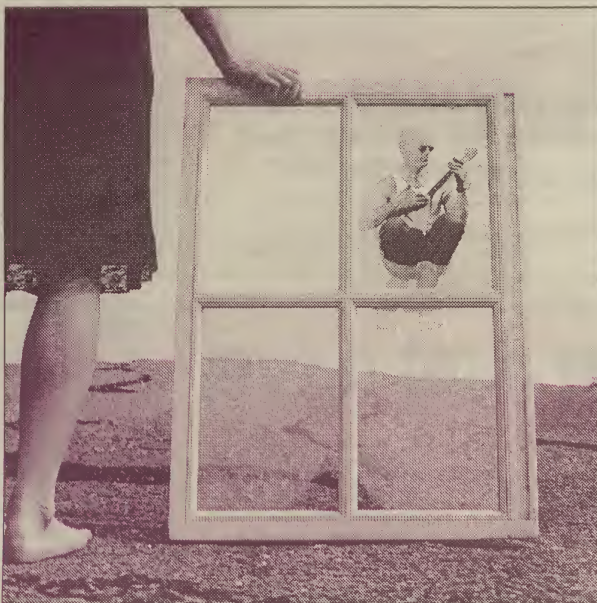
What would make a perfect gay play? Let's draw a wish list: live action cartoon played by hunky male actors. Soap opera far-fetchedness. *Tales of the City* intrigues. The most outlandish plotline conceivable. Add wacky humor. Sprinkle in some Ally McBeal sing-song musical numbers. And certainly, absolutely, some gratuitous nudity.

The Half Baked Players are granting us these wishes with a four-part gay soap opera, *The Duboce Triangle—A Gay Soap, But Isn't That Redundant?* to be mounted at Josie's Cabaret in June. Directed by John Morace, it features four stand-alone one-act comedies based on continuing characters and plotlines written by four distinctive playwrights, Garret Jon Greenfeld, Dean Backus, Prince Gomolivas, and Doug Holsclaw. With titles of the four episodes like *The Menacing Phantom*, *Can I See Your Briefs*, *Smutopolis*, and *Holes of Glory*, gay theater lovers and soap buffs will likely feel they've died and gone to heaven.

The Duboce Triangle follows the filthy rich DeWinters, a gay family of three generations, as they take their salacious quests in all the wrong places. The first episode, *The Menacing Phantom*, whose menacing phalluses are sure to be meaner than the light sabers in *The Phantom Menace*, features a young fag, Zac (Kenny Shultz), who gets a job at Cafe Hairdo and falls in love twice with two men. The renowned bisexual psychiatrist and plastic surgeon Dr. Raven Eagle DeWinter (Nancy Maloney) is seduced by the delicious baby dyke Phil while uncle Pero hatches an evil plot.

Director Morace explains his take on the show: "These are really cartoon characters. It's like a TV show, a queer Ally McBeal. There will be a few songs. Some music score. Some soap opera style music. Big melodramatic stingers. At one point, Dr. Raven Eagle says 'oh my god! Do you think I really am a lesbian?' Then the music goes *dadaaaaaa*....Get the idea?" Asked about the much anticipated gratuitous nudity, he coyly replies, "yes, it'll be a gift of love to the gay community." Wow! I feel love! ▼

The Duboce Triangle runs at Josie's June 1-23, 8pm on Tues & Weds, with *The Menacing Phantom* on June 1-2, *Can I See Your Briefs* on June 8-9, *Smutopolis* on June 15-16, and *Holes of Glory* on June 22-23. \$10 each show or \$30 for the whole series. 16th St. at Market. Info 861-7933.



Norman Rutherford and Marantha Tewksbury perform *Brittle*. See Friday.

Fri

Luna Sea

"FuckPride," an evening of cutting-edge art, music, dance and spoken words on what it means to be proud. \$10-\$15. 8 pm-May 28, 29 and June 4, 5. Luna Sea Women's Performance Project, 2940 16th St, #216-C. 863-2989.

Great America

Gay and Lesbian Day at the popular theme park. Entire area an open field for queers to run amok! \$35 advance, \$45 day of event. 6pm-3am, rides open til midnight, dancing 10pm-3am. Paramount's Great America, Santa Clara. Info 415-646-0890. Order online at WWW.guspre-sents.com.

Dance Mission Theater

The Edge Festival continues with "Brittle," conceived by Norman Rutherford and directed by Marantha Tewksbury. In an exploration of identity, mystical commentary and instigation are provided by a salesman with nothing to sell, a lounge singer, the poet who vanished, and Bugs Bunny. \$12, 8pm, May 28-30, June 3-6. 3316 24th. 824-5044.

Under One Roof

Memorial Day Sidewalk Sale to benefit AIDS organizations. First-quality merchandise donated by local Gift Center and Design Center showrooms and SF Int'l Gift Fair merchants. Prices start at \$1, with most items at a fraction of suggested retail. May 28-31, 10am-8pm (Sunday 11-7). 549 Castro St, btwn. 18th and 19th near Market. 503-2303.

Cartoon Art Museum

Wild Brain, the city's premiere animation studio, will be featured in "The Art of Animation" opening today. The show will demonstrate the various stages of animation production. The company's notable work includes commercials for Nike and Coca-Cola, and the feature film "Fern Gully 2: The Magical Rescue". 814 Mission St.,

2nd Floor. 553-8000.

The CoCo Club

In Bed's 4th Anniversary Show! Lesbians of all colors and their pals, male or female, are welcome to the night that includes a sex toy extravaganza raffle. \$8-12, doors at 8pm and show at 9:30pm. 139 8th St. at Minna, near Howard. 626-2337.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Preview: "Key West," a play by Jack Heifner, directed by Ed Decker. At a clothing-optional resort, two gay men on vacation find their friendship tested. \$12 for previews (thru 6/4) and Wed; \$16 Thurs & Sun, matinees; \$20 Fri & Sat. 8pm (2pm Sun.) Regular run starts 6/5. 25 Van Ness Ave., lower lobby. 861-8972.

7th Note Showclub

"Sex, Lies and Zippergate: or Still Yet Another Vast Right Wing Conspiracy," a whacky lampoon of the Monica-Gate debacle by the DC-based satirists Gross National Product. Written and directed by John Simmons, featuring Christine Thompson and Chris Pray. 8pm. \$20 with a 2-drink minimum. Cellar Cabaret, 7th Note Showclub, 915 Columbus Ave. ProTix at (800) 955-5566 or at the box office.

Sat

SF Art Institute

SF Cinematheque presents "Fitting In," the fourth program in the film series "Eyes Wide Open" to be curated by Karl Bruce Knapper. Nine contemporary short films examine different conceptions of queer individuality and community. Filmmakers Kim Ladin and Erik Deutschman will be present. \$7 (\$3.50 for students and seniors) 7:30 pm. 800 Chestnut St. Info 558-8129.

A.T.A. Gallery

Other Cinema wraps up the spring '99 season with its semi-annual New Experimen-

tal Works show. This recent avant garde media-artwork features the world premieres of Martha Colburn's "Spiders in Love" and Anne McGuire's "All Smiles and Sadness." \$5, 8pm. 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

Theatre Rhinoceros

Final performance: "Johnny Kats in Space." Episode 1: "The Comic Menace." Sketch comedy by Joaquin Hebshie, Dawn Corine, Mai Ling, Bryan Reiner and the newest Kat, Mike Gregory. \$12. 8:30pm (9pm Fri. & Sat.). 2926 16th St. 704-3261.

Piaf's

Final performance: "A Tribute to Jacques Brel," with Simon and friends. Piaf's Restaurant and Cabaret, 1686 Market St. at Gough.



Joe Goode Performance Group dances *Gender Heroes - Part I*. See Thursday.

Reservation and info: 864-3700.

Transmission Theatre

"Necropolis" dance party featuring electronica, darkwave, and industrial sounds, with DJs Alaric, Raglan, and OV23. Special Butoh dance performance by Collapsing Silence. Industrial lighting, blacklight chamber, subverted clubscape, bizarre videos, and more. \$8 before 10 pm, \$11 after. 10pm-3am. 21 +w/D. 314 11th Street at Folsom St.

Sun

API Wellness Center

"Fiesta Santa-CRUISE-an '99," in which self-proclaimed Asian "queens" lend the Philippine Catholic ritual "santacruzán" a queer spin. Co-host Tita Alda quips: "You give these sisters 'queen' titles, and you can be sure they'll try to upstage each other." \$10 include food and raffle entry. 4:30pm. Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center at California Club, 1750 Clay at Polk. 292-3400.

Aftershock

Gay Pride weekend party. \$25 advance, \$30 at the door. 4 til 11am. 174 King St. at Third, behind Pleasure-dome. Info 552-5900. Box Office Tickets at 800-494-TIXS.

Noe Valley Ministry

"Illustrated Songs on: Edwardian MTV." Illustrated Songs were used by music publishers to popularize their songs at five-cents theaters at the turn of the century. Slides would be projected while a singer sang the song. Presented by Eric D. Bernhoff. \$10. Refreshments at 7:30; slide show at 8:30pm. 1021 Sanchez at 23rd St. 885-3335.

Backflip

The first of the Wet Pool Party/In DJs We Trust series, featuring DJs Kevin Yost (i!Records), Peter Heller (Junior Boy's Own, Subliminal), Julius Papp (Yellow), Frank Boissy, Miquel "Migs" Mauricio Aviles, Martel, Nabel, Saga. Indoor/Outdoor party and BBQ. Benefits the SF AIDS Foundation. \$10 be-

fore 4pm, \$15 after. 12pm-2am, 21+. 601 Eddy St. at Larkin.

Mission District

"Carnaval!" The city's biggest outdoor Latino/a celebration takes place all day on the streets of the Mission. For music lovers, DJ Collage (DubTribe, Masse 1) will perform with live keyboards, sax, bass and vocal action. A Waking Dream will have a float with a full U.K.-style sound system with many DJs. The float's visual theme will be "Mondo Condo," protesting the city's sad live/work situation and the resulting exodus of artists from San Francisco. Drummers/ravers welcome.

Mon

Josie's Cabaret

"Open Mic Gay Comedy," Josie's traditional Monday night fun fest, hosted by Marilyn Pittman. \$5. 8pm. 3583 16th St. at Market. No reservation required.

Tue

Yerba Buena Center

Opening night of the National Queer Arts Festival. Presenting "An Evening of Poetry: Adrienne Rich & Mark Wunderlich." The evening begins with a reading by the up-and-coming Wunderlich. Then the distinguished poet Rich will read and sign her latest book, *Midnight Salvage*. 7pm. \$15 (\$10 YBC members). 701 Mission St at Third. 978-2787.

Josie's Cabaret

"Senator Swish," the long-awaited sequel to "Hot Pants Homo," set in the masculine world of politics where a candidate learns that the price of power may mean a surrender to lust in all forms. Written and directed by F. Allen Sawyer, featuring actors Jason Scott Burro, Deena Dav-enport, Trauma Flinstone, Otis Morgan, and Jeff Wineck. \$10. 9:30pm. Tue & Wed thru June 23. 3583 16th Street at Market. 861-7933.

Theatre Rhinoceros

"Viva Variety II," the second in a series of gay variety shows highlighting talent from around the Bay Area. Director Steve Murray says: "the first show dealt mainly with theatre pieces, comedy, and song. This new show will illustrate the incredible breadth of gay talent and expand the format of the shows to new height." Featuring Karen Ripley, Tom Ammiano, Sean Jose Blackman, Danny Scheie, Matthew Simmons, Idris Ackamoor, Jason Serinus, S.K. Thoth, Veronica Klaus, Walt Anthony, and Rocklin Thompson. \$15. 8pm. 2926 16th St at Van Ness. 861-5079.

El Rio

El Rio Outdoor Cinema celebrates Pride Month with a 16 mm screening of two films, with free omnivore barbecue. "Dream Girls" (93) examines the actresses who play male roles in Japan's musical theater. "Jodie: An Icon" (96) traces the career of the actress Jodie Foster and explores her appeal as a lesbian icon. \$5 (advance tickets on sale starting May 25). 7pm barbecue; 8:30pm screening. El Rio bar, 3158 Mission St at Precita (near Cesar Chavez). 282-3325.

A Different Light

"Thirty Years of Pride" showcases images by queer, veteran photojournalist Rink, featuring "magic moments that may startle some people and please others." Free. Exhibit runs 6/1-30. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

UC Berkeley Extension

Scheduled in conjunction with the SF International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, this course "Post-Stonewall Cinema: 30 Years of Gay and Lesbian Film" will examine gay films of the past three decades. Two evenings will be spent at the festival. Taught by indie filmmaker Michael Wallin. \$215. June 1 to 29, 6:30 to 9:30pm. UC Extension Center, 55 Laguna St.. Info 252-5250. To enroll, 642-4111.

Wed

A Different Light

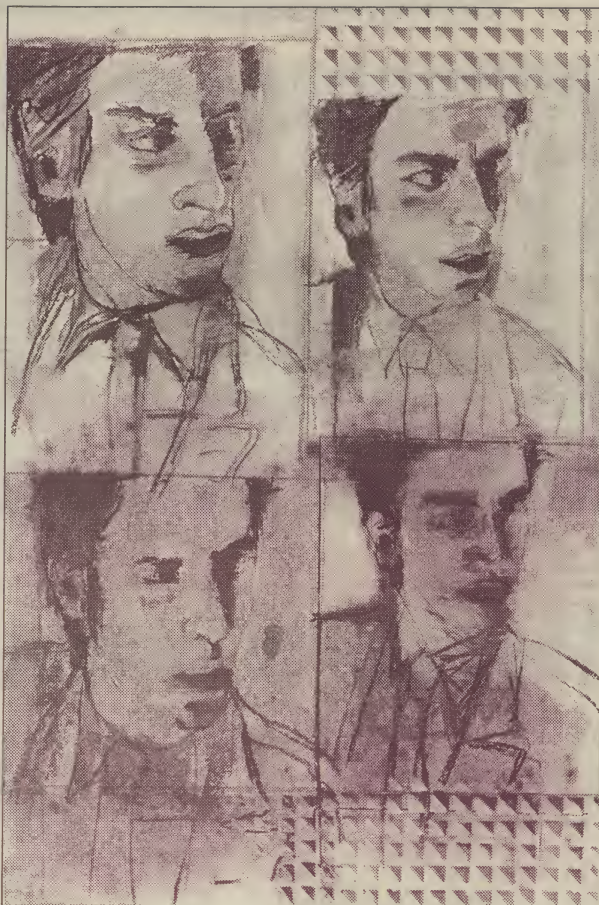
Bob Goss reads from his book *Our Families, Our Values*. The first in a series of June Pride events that A Different Light is cosponsoring with MCC. Goss, also the author of *Jesus Acts Up*, will speak on "Post Millennial Sexual Theologies: Toward a Sexual Reformation." Free. 8:00pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

SFMOMA Rental Gallery

Opening reception: paintings by Robert Brokl, Rob Harper, William Harsh, and Norm Rosenberger, in celebration of "Queer Arts Month." Brokl's work freely recycles images from Greek vases, Greek and Roman sculpture, Indian miniatures, and pop culture. Free. 5:30-7:30. On display June 2-25. SF Museum of Modern Art Rental Gallery, Building A, Fort Mason. 441-4777.

Magic Theatre

"Stones In His Pockets." Marie Jones' play follows two down-on-their-luck Irishmen working as extras on a Hollywood movie being filmed in the Irish countryside. Kent Nicholson directs, with Mark Phillips and Kurt Reinhardt in the leads. \$18-\$32. \$8 senior or student tickets half an hour before curtain. Previews June 2-5, 8pm. Building D, Fort Mason Center. 441-8822.



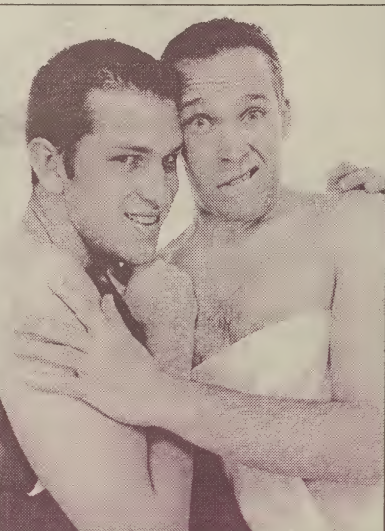
Angry Young Men, charcoal and pastel on paper, 1997 by Robert Brokl. At SFMOMA Rental Gallery. A Queer Arts Month celebration. See Wednesday.

Venue 9

The Wednesday Creative Music Series expands to include multi-media works, with "Music and Film" on tonight. Studio For presents short films by David Michalak with live music by Reel Change. \$6-8 sliding scale. Doors 7:30pm and music 8pm. 252 Ninth St (bet Folsom & Howard). 289-2000.

Intersection for the Arts

Premiere of "The Trail of Her Inner Thigh," written by Erin Cressida Wilson, directed by Rhodessa Jones, and featuring Selena Allen, Fe Bongolan, Rachelle Mendez, Sean San Jose, and Lisa Steindler. \$9-\$14 sliding scale. Thursdays are "pay what you can performances." 8pm, Thur thru Sun. June 2-28. 446 Valencia St.. 626-3311.



Jason Scott Buro (right) cuddles Otis Morgan in *Senator Swish* at Josie's. See Tuesday.

Thu

Somarts Cultural Center

National Queer Arts Festival: Purple Moon Dance Project previews "Conceptions," an evening of dance, live music and visual art exploring the multi-leveled journey of lesbians motherhood. Directed by Jill Togawa, featuring Laura Elaine Ellis, Judith Dancer, Rebecca Weisser, and Alisa Williams. \$12-\$18.50. Opening night is tomorrow night, 6/4. Thru 6/13. 8pm. 934 Brannan St. 552-1105.

Yerba Buena Center

National Queer Arts Festival: Joe Goode Performance Group presents the world premiere of "Gender Heroes-Part

I." Based on interviews with transgendered individuals and cross-dressers from different cultural/ethnic backgrounds, the show uses dance and spoken words to explore the personal journeys toward one's gender identity. Goode's past works include "29 Effeminate Gestures" and "Doris in a Dustbowl." Featuring Joe Goode, Liz Burritt, Felipe Barreto-Cabello, Jennifer Wright Cook, and Marc Moruzumi. \$18-\$25. 8pm, June 3-6. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater. 700 Howard St. 648-4848.

Bucheon Gallery

"The Magic of Oaxaca," the 1999 Oaxaca Art Auction, featuring fine paintings, sculptures and crafts donated by renowned Oaxacan artists, including Francisco Toledo, Filemón Santiago, and others. A benefit for Frente Común Contra el SIDA (The Common Front Against AIDS), a non-profit Mexican organization. Sponsored by several galleries. \$20 raffle for a 10-day Oaxaca vacation for two. Art preview 10am-4pm. Auction and drawing 6pm-9pm. 540 Hayes St. (at Gough).

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Send your calendar event listings to:

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Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
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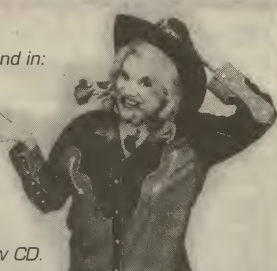
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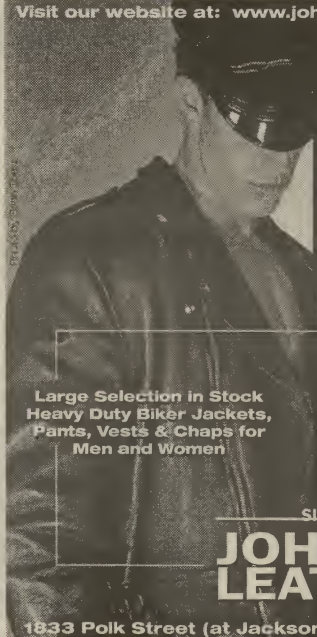
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San Francisco's entries at IML '99 are (L to R) BJ Cavnor (Mr. Powerhouse), Werner Tillinger (Mr. SF Leather), and Glennon Sutter (sponsored by Stompers Boots). They'll compete with some 50 men from around the world.

They aim to conquer

by Mister Marcus

Even as you read this, hundreds of leather people are en route or are already in Chicago, looking forward to the 21st edition of what has become the world's biggest leather competition. People from Europe, South America, Australia and even Japan will attend the week-end-long leather marathon.

It's more than just a meet-and-greet. It's an out-of-body experience. You would swear you were on the inside of a brand new pair of biker boots when you're among the old guard, the new guard, the curious, the straight, the gay and any other sub-sub-culture you care to include. Everyone relishes the parade of pulchritude they get to witness.

No doubt, before the curtain comes down on the whole thing, a slew of marriages will take place, and most likely even a few divorces. Being in the lobby of the Hotel Congress, the host accommodations, is like being in a candy store: It's easy to overdo it and get heartache. Scores of people can tell you that, until they went to IML in Chicago with their lover(s), they had a stable marriage, which ended after a visit to the Windy City. Understand I am not forecasting doom to your marriage bliss if you and your other half are attending together—but the temptations are plentiful, and after all, it is a holiday weekend, isn't it?

Apart from the Bay Area

hopefuls I mentioned last week, add one more name to the contest: I was advised that Mr. Powerhouse Leather, BJ Cavnor, has decided to toss his hat into the ring. It is expected that close to 60 men will vie for the title, and as you all know, only 20 will make the cut. Alas (and fair warning), failing to make the grade in Chicago can be a shattering blow to the ego of someone who is just about the hottest thing going in his own hometown.

Some contestants have been planning their participation for as much as two years. They have streamlined their bodies, studied all there is to know about the leather/SM community and all its sub-cultures, and some have made the rounds of various leather events around the country in order to meet some of the icons they have only read about. In other words, they are there to win.

It isn't always easy going for the judges, believe me! This is my 19th year on the panel, and I have seen some of the hottest men falter and lose out because they didn't realize the magnitude and the responsibilities of the IML title.

(A note on scoring: the Olympic scoring system is utilized here, but don't blame it if you fail to make the cut; in the end, the results would be identical or within a few points if regular scoring was employed.)

The contestants and judges will be introduced on Friday night when the aspirants draw a number to set their order of ap-

pearance. That's the easy part.

The real nitty-gritty, nuts-and-bolts work begins on Saturday morning at 0830, when the contestants are interviewed in a marathon that goes until 1800 that evening. The two-part scoring continues on Saturday night, when the physique portion of the contest will take place. The scores of that segment will be added to the interviewing scores. On Sunday morning at 0800, the remaining contestants have their interviews. The scores of both those interactions will determine the 20 semi-finalists.

For the judges (IML Tony Mills, Thom Dombkowski, Chief Judge; Seattle's Spencer Bergstedt; former Drummer publisher Tony DeBlase, Don Bastian of Calgary, Canada, Fred Katz of New York, Tom Stice of Atlanta and San Francisco's Graylin Thornton), it will be a grueling interlude. The light-hearted Mr. DeBlase replaced the Rev. Troy Perry on the panel (Perry had other business to attend to), so the judging group will get to have some fun. And, trust me, a little levity during the proceedings is always welcome.

Thanks for the memories

On Sunday evening after the opening ceremonies, all the contestants will be introduced. Bill Stadt, the show's producer, has been running himself hectic, getting it all together. He promises a spectacular event for an expected audience of 3,000.

An added bonus for everyone: This year, veteran Master of Ceremonies Frank Nowicki joins our own former Ms. SF Leather, Queen Cougar, to take charge of the proceedings. That dynamic duo should shake things up! In addition, a special treat for all, but especially for those of you who grew up with and adored a certain '70s television comedienne who each week was "so glad we had this time together, just to laugh and sing a song"—Carol Burnett's daughter, Erin Hamilton, will be the featured entertainer!

By 10pm San Francisco time, the winner will be known. The proceedings of the contest will be carried online if you care to click on www.iml.com. Hey, it's going to be a great weekend. Full report next week with photos, of course!

Meanwhile, back home...

Mister S Leathers has come out with another supplement to

next page ►



The latest Bare Chest Calendar winners at the Powerhouse last Thursday were (L to R) Chris Hummel (Mr. March), Kevin Sims (Mr. December), and Mark Murphy (runner-up).

MUSIC

Guys' night out

Kid Silver, Ben Lee and Jude deliver

by Gregg Shapiro

With the number of new releases by male artists lately, the indication is that the female singer/songwriter reign at the top of the charts might be coming to an end. That sounds like bad news, but in reality, the news is good. Perhaps the high level of quality achieved by the female singer/songwriters of the past few years has had a positive influence on the guys, at least the guys in this review.

Kid Silver's *Dead City Sunbeams* (Jet Set), Ben Lee's *Breathing Tornados* (Grand Royal/Capitol), and Jude's *No One Is Really Beautiful* (Maverick/Reprise) all hold great promise for this year and years to come.

The best of this batch, and already a contender for the best of '99, *Breathing Tornados* by Ben Lee proves that not all music by young Australians is as lame as anything by Silverchair. Lee's coolness, in fact, is evident in the fact that he records for the Beastie Boys' Grand Royal label. Lee

has a knack for making timeless pop music in a very contemporary setting (samples, loops, synthesized effects). Right from the start (opening track "Cigarettes Will Kill You"), this twelve-track disc grabs the listener with a combination of great lyrics, hypnotic orchestrations, and Lee's sincere vocals. He maintains his hold on the listener's ears through "Nothing Much Happens" (where he sings "Nothing happens/But a lot goes on"), the stunning "Finger In The Moon," and Elliott Smith-esque "Sleepwalking." His use of available technology is as innovative as it is subtle, as you can hear in "Sunflower," "Tornados," "Nighttime," and "Sandpaperback." He can also play the acoustic troubadour with the best of them, as he does on "10ft. Tall," "Birthday Song," and "Burn To Shine."

Equally as impressive as Lee's disc is *Dead City Sunbeams* by Kid Silver. Kid Silver is the alter-ego of Ken Griffin (formerly of the underrated and short-lived band Rollerskate Skinny). Kid Silver's fourteen-track debut disc is

also technology-friendly and is grounded by the humanity in the Kid's vocals. There's a touch of primo Echo & The Bunnymen (the Kid's vocals are reminiscent of Ian McCullough's) in songs about "ugly angels" ("Hey Trespasser"), "hungry ghosts" ("Racing Daylight"), carrying on "in the on and on and on" ("67 Cities of Light"), his "pecked-away bread heel of a heart" ("24 Last Days of the Lilac"), "the magic in your head" ("Don't Bring Tears To A Table"), and "saving hands" ("Layabout Superstars").

Like Ben Lee and Kid Silver, Jude incorporates the latest recording technology into the recording of his mostly traditional songwriting. From folk tunes ("You Mama You," "I Do," and "George") to the more inventive pop songs ("I'm Sorry Now," "Brad And Suzy," "Charlie Says," "Rick James," "She Gets The Feeling"), Jude, like his label's chief cook and bottle-washer Madonna, is something of a chameleon. However, if you like Shawn Mullins, you should find Jude to your liking as well. ▼

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

the store's already mammoth catalog. At this point in time, it's a hefty 364 pages with most of the photography by Richard Hunter himself. His philosophy: Big is Better. Right on, Richard! This one will suffice for a while, but the new one with a whopping 400 pages will be out in November 2000. Don't count on seeing "that certain model" in the new one. He's been replaced already!

Then there's this rumor of nautical naughtiness floating about: Everyone who went on the leather cruise last week had a lot of good things to say... though there was a bit of a snarl, what with that big divorce because somebody caught somebody else in the sack with one of the crew members (but, hey, how can any-

one resist a salty, seaworthy deck hand?!). It seems the "Fred & Ginger Show" made its final curtain somewhere between here and Mexico.

Back her on land last Thursday, the final bare-chest contest of the season took place — with a unique twist. Mr. March left town (he fled back to Miami, claiming spousal dysfunctions!), and the runner-up for that spot also departed, moving to Boston to be reunited with his long lost love. So-o-o-o-o, last Thursday night, May 20, the judges faced a whopping 14 contestants vying for both the March and December spots. It was quite a night!

Judges Ben Greenwell, Philip Turner, Jerry Roberts and Marcus Wonacott had a field day with the questions. The audience as well as the Bare Chest Chorus were enthusiastic and loud.

When it was all over, Chris

Hummel won the March spot, and Kevin Sims won the December spot. Mark Murphy was the runner-up. At least 11 of the 12 winners will compete for the front and back covers of the 2000 calendar on Thursday, June 3d. See you there?

And finally, last Saturday night, May 22, the first regional Mr. Drummer contest was held at the Dallas Eagle. Co-owners Mark Frazier and Matt Miller hosted more than 300 people for this 11th annual event, with six contestants vying for the title. After all the scores were tallied, Marty Brown of Dallas became Mr. Gulf Coast Drummer 1999, making him the first bona-fide contestant for the Int'l. Mr. Drummer 1999 title. Felix Flores was the runner-up. You'll meet Marty here in September, along with all the other yet-to-be-named regional winners. ▼

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, May 27

In Chicago? Tonight, Mr. Ebony in Leather Contest at the world famous Cell Block, around 2100. Judges are IMD Boy Ryan Goldner, Tom Stice, and Graylin Thornton, and it's emceed by Frank Nowicki and Queen Cougar. And, no, Keith Truitt, Jimmy Lee Murray and Omar Moseley will not compete.

Weekend, May 28 — June 1

International Mr. Leather weekend in Chicago. Friday night, meet all the contestants and judges, with private parties all around. Saturday night, the jock-strap competition and pre-judging, and more parties. Sunday, the big contest at the Congress Theatre. You'll have the results if you click on www.iml.com around 2200 San Francisco time. Pegasus MOC weekend run, "Shasta-Trinity" tour, visiting Shasta Caverns, Weaverville. Costs \$125 to \$155, leaving from Castro Theatre at 0800. Call 924-7550 or email: PegasusMOC@rocketmail.com.

Sunday, May 30

Golden Gate Guards MC beer party at the Eagle, 1500-1800, food, shenanigans and tourists to cruise. It is a holiday weekend!

Thursday, June 3

Grand finale of the Bare Chest Calendar season when all winners compete for the cover and back cover. At 2100 at the Powerhouse. Be there! Also the Big Basket contest at The Edge (if Eric makes it back intact from Chicago) around 2100. Win

cash, prizes, and adoration. See the Old Bag pant!

Saturday, June 5

ACLC Rub-A-Dub fishing party from 0800 to 1400 for \$10 at the Lake Chabot Marina. Call Den Calkins at 510-278-0677 for details.

Phoenix Uniform Club uniform swap/sale and beer party at the Eagle from 1900-2200 with \$6 beer fee and \$1 hot dogs. Wear your gear. Sell, trade, buy!

Tuesday, June 8

MaST social gathering upstairs at the Lone Star, at 1930. Subject: When boys/slaves grow up. What then?

Wednesday, June 9

Golden Shower Buddies spray each other at 933 Harrison, 2000-2300. Freak freely! Let it flow! Call 863-HEAD for details.

Friday, June 11

Ms. San Francisco Leather 99 contest at Club Townsend, with Shan Carr emceeding, \$20 advance (at Mr. S & Mr. S) or \$25 at the door. Come out all you men! Call 888-849-6659 for details. Contestant apps Available at Daddy's Bar and Mr S or email: MsSFLcntst@aol.com.

Saturday, June 12

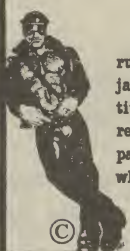
International Mr./Ms. Deaf Leather contest at Hotel Inter-Continental in New Orleans. More details next week.

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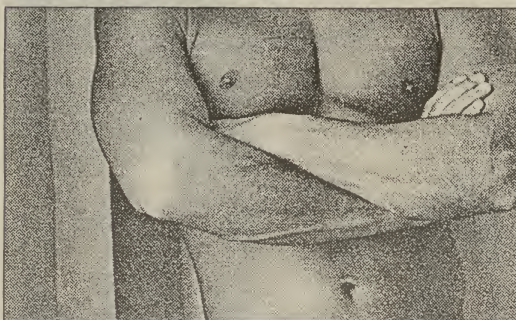
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PARTING GLANCES

OHme Degol Emeryville May 1st
Hey Jim. The two Johns here. We stopped and talked about in the Oakland Hills and in the city—would like to touch base with you. ☎ 7500

33 Bus Sat 5-1 3:30PM
You: bald, moustache, goatee and white pants, very attractive. Me: dark hair moustache, sleeveless vest. Smiled at each other. Not enough time to talk... How about dinner? ☎ 7501

Me Bright Orange Sweat Shirt
U, white tee, big blue eyes and goatee eating sandwich with friend at Baghdad Cafe. Sat. May 1st. We had lots of eye contact couldn't connect, was with mom. Call me, let's meet, talk, play. ☎ 7502

Hath/ 5/2 At 3:30 Balcony
You: Long-haired blonde, Me: Long-haired brunette. Enjoyed our conversation. Regret not following you after parting glance. Perhaps future movie partner or more? Attracted. Call ☎ 7503

Steamworks April 5
You: East Bay originally from Spain. Me: older, grey hair S.F. You came into my room, much fun, great kisses. Want more. Have car will travel. Call ☎ 7504

We Met At Mack
Hoped to meet again-but it closed. You pounded my hungry hole-you 30's, med build, rock hard tool-me same. Wims, flexible, eager to please. Call lets do it in private. ☎ 7505

5/3- Washington Mutual@Taraval
You: Dark hair, carhart pants, jeep. Me: short hair, glasses, beard. We talked outside. I was too shy to ask you out. Coffee? Dinner? Pls. Call ☎ 7506

Bus Stop 18th And Castro 4/28
U-20 something, backpack, headphones; Me-40ish, bl. leather jacket, sunglasses. We cruised; you got off at Davies stop. Want you madly! ☎ 7508

Kabuki/ Bath's Tue 5/4 4:15pm
Sitting area drinking tea, you there having coffee, navel ring with om. Looked for you but you left. Should have talked. Like to see you. ☎ 7605

Midnight Sun Mon 5/7 7PM
You: Light-featured mustache? standing 3-feet away, yet too far. You have beautiful deep penetrating eyes w/ a smile that emerges to make promises. This is a like attribute for me as well. We should have spoken—here's the chance. ☎ 7702

Latin Guy Eating Lunch On 2451
You: Latin guy, outside: with green shirt & jeans on. You were with your dog. Me: tall, black jacket, jeans and black & yellow hat. Call me. ☎ 7509

Kevin From England 5/3 1:30pm
I'm a gentleman farmer who takes photos of friends. Bought as many frames as you did glasses in Macy's. Come see my farm. Call James! ☎ 7600

38 Geary You W/ Sewing Machine
Saturday, May 8, 2:30pm. You got off at Hyde. Me: seat behind, black cargo pants, denim jacket. I have holes that need darning. ☎ 7601

Clark's Junior Weds. Nt. Security
You: Intensely masculine, gold star badge, nice arms/tattoo, baseball cap. Me: nervous, attracted, came back twice, too shy to speak, read book. Want loving, long term. ☎ 7603

Rosie's Cantina Mon May 5, 6pm
You: blond, cute, black shirt, eating alone. Me: dark hair, glasses, black jacket. Burrito to go. I should have stayed. Got shy. Let's meet. ☎ 7604

Fell Against You On Bart
Fri. 4/30, 8:20am, I got on at Powell, fell when train started, you: 5'8", gray hair, sports coat, polo shirt, got off at Montgomery. Me: 5'7", trim, gray hair, blue jacket. Coffee? ☎ 7606

Tony M. -The Crunch Gym
You came to the gym only once. Worked your cute little buns off. Drop the big mac and come back. Love, Joan. ☎ 7507

Kinkos Van Ness 5/17 12:30PM
You: using color copier, ruggedly handsome. Me: smiling in the cashier line, boy-next-door type. Would like to assist your administration of duties. ☎ 7700

The Cafe On May 2
You with friend, me with a date. You told me I was handsome, think you are too. You live on 18th street, from New York. Your name is Jeff? Call me. ☎ 7701

Me Redhair, You Muscular/Tatt
We played @ 88's Barn 5/1. You whispered something in my ear—would like to meet for coffee to pursue. ☎ 7602

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Great massage given by a very hirsute, husky middle aged semi-retired male. ☎ 7311

Tall Dark Handsome Loving Hunk
Passionate GWM LTR. Accomplished 6'2", 190#, 43, buffed goatee Italian. Fun, exclusive, sincere, HIV+ nonprogressor. Seeks similar 35-45, GWM, professional, relationship oriented for soulmate. Relationship. ☎ 7305

Sexy & Masc. Scorpio Next Door
Not cut out for mateless lifestyle in S.F. Pursuing a true-blue guy with a self-assured but devil-may-care attitude towards others' expectations. Me: vigorous and intense 28yo, 5'8", 165lbs, br/H/E, terrific smile. You: well-balanced caucasian with similar attributes. Us: A complimentary combination! ☎ 7306

Clark Kent Adam From N.Y.
Assertive, affectionate, creative, articulate, warm, witty, young-looking GWM soulmate/seamate. 40, 6'1", 178#, br/jr, HIV-. Let's fly together & kiss in high places. ☎ 7307

Wanted Dominant Guy
Quiet, nice guy submissive seeks dominant around 5'7", 150, intense, HIV-, 40-50, verbal sometimes, experienced. I'm in-shape, 45, attractive, interests sense of humor, possible LTR. ☎ 7308

Seeking No Partnership
Rope bondage master ISO serious masochist, who enjoy clothpin, flogging et al for exploration, humiliation, pain & pleasure. You be in-shape & serious. I'm 5'9", 185lb. Warm & experienced. Relationship oriented. ☎ 7309

Educated African American
Young & cute 28, 5'6", 170 ISO friendship/ ltr with honest goodlooking intelligent HIV- single guys 23-35. I enjoy dancing, cooking, hiking, the beach & being romantic, serious reply only! ☎ 7310

Affectionate HIV+
Asian, 5'7", 130, nice face and personality, toned body, likes movies, theaters, music, reading, cuddling, kissing, seeking 30/40ish GM, self confident, h/w proportioned non feminine ltr. ☎ 7312

I'm Ready! Are You?
Cute GWM, slender, mid 30's, bottom, christian, airlines employee, just moved to Bay Area, seeking spirited, fun top for fun, flights, romance and ltr. Let's play! ☎ 7313

Asian Mde ISO White Mde
GAM, 38, 145lbs, 5'7", drk hair/eyes, smooth good build/Vit. Likes outdoor/ beach/ theatre ISO WM 27-38, smooth, good built for friends & more. ☎ 7315

To The Handsome French/ Canadian
Met on 3/23 & I luv U. Happy 8-day! ☎ 7401

Black Leo/Aries In SF?
Gay black sagittarius, 36, 190, 6 foot, goatee, handsome, fun seeks fire sign for friendship and ???? ☎ 7408

Seeking Friendship
My partner and all my friends have all passed on. I seek a friendship. I am 5'8" ISO regular guy. I enjoy everything except ballet. ☎ 7316

ISO Hairy Sexy Romantic Bottom
Into outdoors, friends, travel, monogamy. LTR b/m 230 6'4". Ub hip and cool. No b'er or freaks. ☎ 7402

Aggressive Black Men
Do you like sex daily or weekly. Do you enjoy being sucked a long time. I will submit to you on a regular basis. I'm GWM, 165lbs. Your cocksucker. ☎ 7403

Healthy 62 Semi Retired WM
Would like to meet new friends. I'm 6'2" 200lbs. Like long morning walks, quiet evenings, dining out, gardening and travel. Have a good sense of humor. Looking to meet other WM around my age for friendship or whatever. ☎ 7404

GWM, 46, 5'8", Bl, Brn, GdLgk, 160lb.
Noe Valley prof. 8" restoring, garden, music, travel, smkr, cat. ISO: uncut boyfriend? LTR? hairy A+, nons. ca a++, cook? ☎ 7405

Grandpa Searches For Grandson
Not found the right one-any race—especially if he had a tough life and needs love and care and help to a future can relocate. ☎ 7406

18-30 Muscles
Big swollen nipples, big round butt for aggressive strong love making. Safe sex, HIV-, clean hygiene and ready for some good strong nipple sucking. Blacks, Latinos, Asians only. ☎ 7407

Student Seeks Patron
Eccentric, focused student ISO a generous open minded man interested in helping w/ my education in exchange for companionship. Serious only please. ☎ 7409

Latino New In Santa Cruz Area
25, 5'6", 170, medium build complexion, black hair, goatee masculine, str8 acting, attractive, looking to meet guys 25-45 in the area 4 friendship & more, be honest & serious, mature. ☎ 7510

ISO Sincere Younger Partner
You desire a balanced, growth oriented relationship while being sexually top identified. I'm a fit, 50's GWM arts professional and we are HIV-, nonsmokers/users, open minded emotionally available. ☎ 7511

Boisish, Smooth, VGL, GWM, 150
5'10", 38, bl/vr, HIV-, mostly bottom. ISO in-shape tops 30-45, any race. Muscular/ alt. rock A+ open to possibilities for LTR to just (safe) fun. No sub abuse, dishonesty or flakes, please. ☎ 7513

Namaste
We are here briefly. The spiritual is our true home. Physical passion a joy, heart and soul connection bliss. GWM 50, 6'0", 200lbs. Aware, honest, compassionate pls. call. Recovering men welcome. ☎ 7514

Nice Hard Dick 8" For You Enjoy
Horny Brazilian, 36, 5'7" 132lbs, masculine, clean cut, hairy, eyes and skin brown. You're handsome GWM or Latino, between 18-34, hungry nice butt. My heart'll go on, I'll fill you with love. ☎ 7515

Gentle And Companion
GWM 57, handsome, uncut, 6'175 bl/vr HIV-shaded cock/balls. Seeks smooth, slim, attractive uncut guys 18-30 for LTR. Serious only. N/S. ☎ 7516

A Tender Embrace
Is initially offered this 65 y/o. GWM, 155lbs, 5'11" brown/hazel. Then, soft lips touch as we explore, taking our time with a drink and cigarette in Hayward. ☎ 7514

GBM Seeks GWM East Bay
GBM positive 46yo seeks GWM. 40-50ys. I am 5'11" 190lbs. brn/bn attractive. Tired of bars- friendship. LTR-all possible. Be weight/height proportionate. ☎ 7518

Seeking Masochist
Rope bondage master, ISO serious masochist for partnership, who enjoy clothpins, flogging et al for exploration, pain & pleasure. You be in-shape & serious. I'm 5'9", 185lbs. warm & experienced. Relationship oriented. ☎ 7613

Consider This: GWM, 29, 6', 170#
Seeking like minded. Sports, love, music, sex, work, media, school, handsome, healthy, non-fat/lem. Interested? Won't waste your time. LTR. Just meet me. ☎ 7520

Attractive Latino
Good looking Latino 33yo, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee. Professional, looking for GWM between 26-40yo for friendship or more. I like: dining out, travel, hiking, just call me. ☎ 7521

GWM Seeks Sweetheart
ISO a warm, caring, affectionate GWM, GWM, 34-44, HIV-, & who might enjoy bicycling, massage, dining out, & kissing & cuddling. Me: GWM, 40, 5'9", 175lbs. HIV-, Auburn red/blue. ☎ 7522

Overwhelmingly Normal GWM
Me: 38, 6', 170, bright, attractive, HIV-, stable, fun, sense of humor, varied interest. You: GWM, 35-45, secure with yourself, fun, interesting. Dating, fun, LTR? ☎ 7607

GWM 33 Sk Latino/ Asian Partner
Me: want long term only. 110, 5'5", dk hr, hairy, vrs. Enjoy classical music, picnics, anti-materialistic. You: 18-30, slim like me. Spiritually interested agnostic, non-political. ☎ 7608

Single Hot GAM Wanted By GJM35
U: single, hot, with a life & brain. Me: 5'6" 165 hot & hairy Jewish man. We like museums to working out. No one nighters. "Marry me!" ☎ 7609

Partner Wanted!
Handsome, GWM 52 deaf, looking for a handsome partner. No drugs/alcohol. HIV- any race, responsible. Preferably younger than I am. Call anytime between 7:00pm. ☎ 7610

"Armageddon Of Beef"
Me: hairy, blond top, goatee, 40's German-Italian, 6', 180, professional desired by sexy, GBM, caramel brown, 40, goatee, writer into jazz, romance, cooking, arts, dogs, sex and monogamy. ☎ 7611

Snuggle Mate Wanted
GWM, 41, 6', 165lbs, Half-Italian/half-German, brown/hazel, beard. Interests include bridge, metaphysics, massage, c/w dancing, poetry. Looking for lean guy 20-50. ☎ 7612

WM ISO Asians 30 To 50
6', 160#, reddish/blue, tattoos, very versatile, seeking fit Asian guy for hot fun, maybe more. Should be honest, adventurous and masculine. I am 30yo. ☎ 7614

Hairless Bear
HIV- WM, 29, brwn-bwn, 190# 5'5" Likes to cuddle, kiss. Versatile bottom; seeks masculine top, 25-40, great sense of humor & sincere. What's Up! ☎ 7615

A Submissive With Facial Hair
A good heart and a nice ass needing attention. Desire verbal, responsible, h/wt proportionate, 25-50yrs. HIV-. I'm 5'10", br/bl, 175lbs. handsome, moustache/goatee, many interests. Single only. ☎ 7616

At Last I'm Here To Serve You
You: Bi or GWM 18-55yo, HIV-, top, size does not matter, husky a plus & horny. Me: Filipino, 36yo, HIV-, 5'9", satisfaction guaranteed by me. ☎ 7512

Handsome Asian For GWM
Asian, 29yrs old, 5'10, 160lbs. Very smooth, swimmer's build. Body is looking for GWM for fun and more. You: handsome, mainly, fit 25-40yrs old only, HIV-, and hairy A+. ☎ 7703

Chubby Guy Blk And Young
Seeks nice-guy-blk, small. It's all good. Me: 26, 5'11" about 325#, honey brown skin, masculine and romantic. You: 18-39, cute and affectionate. Friendship or sex is cool too, I'm open. ☎ 7517

Brazilian Hot Passion
Hot versatile South American 150#, 5'10", brn/gm, smooth body, gym toned, uncut, super smooth, luscious kisser, HIV+ super healthy/athletic. ISO fun guys to connect. ☎ 7519

Very Positive
Handsome, sensual, secure man (6', 165lbs, 44) seeks good-looking man in his 30s for relaxed life of travel and conversation. We both have intellect, wit and good manners. ☎ 7704

Educated African American
Young & cute 28, 5'6" 170# ISO friendship/LTR with honest good looking intelligent HIV- single guy 23-35. I enjoy dancing, cooking, the beach & being romantic. Serious reply only! ☎ 7705

Let's Get Together
I'll satisfy your needs, we'll both reach cloud nine with happiness, any race and age. I'm hot n horny for you. ☎ 7706

Handsome Italian
40, 6'2", 185lbs into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times, seeks another HIV negative Latin man who is sincere and romantic for monogamous relationship. ☎ 7707

Coming Out Guide In Future?
Not finding man? Touch of insecurity? Life is cabaret only on screen? Seek males with sense humor seeking reality. All races (styles) encouraged. 50yo GWM emotionally avail, sex optional. ☎ 7708

Seeking Special Young Man
Attr. affectionate old GWM, 75, 5'7", 168, seeks a serious gdl's HIV-romantic 18-45 man for on-going intimate meaningful sex. Fantasies explored is desired. ☎ 7709

Seeking Romance, Love & Friendship
You are under 45 conservative, clean cut, in-shape with morals, values, integrity. I'm 33 5'9" 155lbs with same qualities. Not into bars/drugs. Let's talk and explore the possibilities. ☎ 7710

Skinny Old Top
GWM, 41, 5'11" 125, balding grey, blue seeking tiny skinny bottom for monogamous LTR. Affectionate, active, intropective, intelligent, caring guy seeks similar. SF/Penninsula. ☎ 7711

Nationality-Mixed
Seeking males 18-30 for safe sex and possible friendship. HIV-, clean hygiene, big swollen nipples a plus. Black male, muscular chest 49", large crotch, aggressive love making. ☎ 7712

Find Meaning In Your Life
Cultured, passionate, suave, masculine, intentionally solid, supportive. GWM, 154#, 5'9", 47, loves travel old movies, pets, home and meaningful communication, seeks any race 30-45, slim, sincere, ns, nd. ☎ 7713

Slap Me And Prove I Am Wrong!
I say that strong, healthy, low-voiced non-gymnosed masculine Asian men don't exist. I am load-laden Italian. My filled pinata awaits butch Asian buddy, if you exist. ☎ 7714

Insatiable Fil/Am Total Bottom
Very youthful 48yo looks 30's I love to suck and get great big cock pussy as set fucked 5'9" 160lbs clean shaven HIV-IT smoker, non drinker loves good smoke seeks tops any race must be 8+. ☎ 7715

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Hot, Horny, Hung?
Slim, trim, cut WM strip naked, kick back for great ball n cock suck. Hungry mouth gives compl. satisfaction, married, uniforms A+. ☎ 7717

Hot White Pig Bottoms Wanted
By 55 yr old Caucasian 6' 155lbs brn/blm glasses hairy chest & stomach 9" cut cock wants to fuck young white guys under 40 who have tight butts. ☎ 7718

It's Time To Get Real
Me: Asian 35 5'9", will do everything you say any race, age, size. Me just average but I will make your fantasy come true. No second thoughts. ☎ 7719

8" Cock Or Bigger
Mature slim short GWM HIV- with hot pussy, want to be fucked with big cock, & loves sucking cock slow. Plus knows how to use my butt muscles. Also like being spanked. No bay S.F. ☎ 7720

Wanted: Black Guys
I'm a good looking GWM, 42, 185lbs with dark short brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, and smooth body. I'm seeking black guys to give some oral service to. Only 25-45 need respond. ☎ 7721

Like To Get Off Late At Night?
Hot hung inosmic gives amazing oral service to hung, smooth guys. Immediate callback if you tell me what I want to hear. No chit chat please. ☎ 7722

Vans, Suv's, Trailer-homes, Cars
W/darkened windows. Tum me on, like to get naked for sex with in confines. Seeking owners of above for daytime adventures. Arom/hemp ok. Safe, HIV-. ☎ 7723

Black Top With Attitude Sought
By respectful white boy, slim, attractive, 38. Seeking slim to skinny, smooth, hung and verbal man. I'll worship you and serve you. Just snap your fingers, Sir. ☎ 7724

Just Shut- Up And Ride
WM, 34, 5'10" 200lb blond/blue muscle hunk. 48"ch 32" w 18" arms-wants good looking men to pump or get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off anytime. ☎ 7725

Discipline For You
Spanking, light to heavy. Novices welcome. Limited respected, role play possible. Me: attractive GWM, 46, 6'5", 250, stocky build brown hair/moustache. You: attractive GWM (White, Asian, Latin), slim, 18-35, nice buns. ☎ 7726

Let's Suck Cock N Eat Ass
GWM, good looking, dark/brown, goatee, HIV+, 6'2" cut, seeks very oral 6'hr! u.b. under 40, and ready to suck cock and eat ass. Let's have a beer, watch porn & have fun. Daytime, hairy, uncut A+ +. ☎ 7727

Bad Attitude- Good Fuck
Big dick Italian top looking for a hot masculine, in-shape bottom. Any race. Also, don't mind "kicken-it" with other tops. ☎ 7740

Hung Tops Wanted
Bl bottom guy who is eager to please. GWM, 45, 6', 155lb. no attitude, HIV+. ☎ 7527

BARTALK

PERSONALS ARE FREE!

CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
Seeking Relationship ☐
Seeking Adventure ☐
Lesbian ☐
Fetishes ☐
Couples ☐
Others ☐

We played @ 88's Barn 5/1. You whispered something in my ear—would like to meet for coffee to pursue. ☎ 7602

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY** at 5 PM, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

Name _____ Daytime Telephone _____
Address _____ Evening Telephone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

A1 Oral Service- Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV- 7411

Shy Longhair
Not into social scenes. GWM, 39, 5'10", 190, 6" top, HIV+avg looks, curly blonde/red & beard. Looking for bottoms, similar age, for indoor play, maybe ongoing. 7412

Insatiable Man- Pussy
38, 165, 5'8", Asian, smooth, tanned with very hot pussy. Looking for tops good at using toys, cock, fist. East Bay. 7413

Straight Guy Wants Blow Jobs
I'm a part Latino straight man, HIV-, handsome, blue collar, 5'8", slim, 48yo. Into getting head from gay men. Will repeat if satisfaction mutual. Your place pls. 7414

Kick Back And Talk Nasty
To your cocksucker- come over and watch me do what I do best. Looking for big cocks to worship. Pref. Black and Latino dick. Me- 5'8", 45, green eyes, heavy. 7415

Party In My Hole
Wisconsin butt boy visiting SF May 9-15 ISO one/group cock/dildo/ list to stuff & stretch hungry hole. I'm 38, 5'8", 170, goatee. You be 20's-40's good shape. Latino & hung tick a plus. 7416

Insatiable Total Asialam Bottom
Youthful, 5'9", 160lbs clean shaven b/r/b HIV- I smoke. Not drinker, bottom. East Bay seeks tops 8"-all races. 47yo lks 30's love to suck get fucked. East Bay tight/shaven live in desires. 7417

Palo Alto Filipino Cocksucker
40, 5'11", 185, Blk/brown, ISO 7" or more, cock to suck off. Penisula area preferred. 11pm-12noon no reciproc. No one over 50! 7418

Mutual Dildo Play In SF
Total bottom 35 buzzed & goatee 165lbs 5'7" looking for mutual butt play/bottoms. I smoke, drink & party. I also suck & get fucked by hung tops. White or Latino, HIV+ only. 7419

Suck My Swollen Cock
Big, always-hard, juicy, cock waiting for a hot pussy throat. You be attractive, in-shape and hungry. Will reciprocate. 7420

Let's Explore One Another
Attractive GWM, 6', 175#, 37, athletic, HIV-, b/r/b, hairy, intelligent, romantic, humorous, masculine, clean, fun, very healthy. Seeks similar or younger for regular intimate encounters w/ LTR potential. 7421

Get Naked, Get Sucked!
Kick back on my massage table for hot bj 4 trim cut WM/big thick cocks n balls. Mult cummers A+ married ok. 7422

Sleaze Black Bottom
Seeks raunchy/kink/ sleaze top verbal a plus. 7423

Seeking Affectionate Husky Man
WLM early 40's, 6', 160lbs ISO affectionate chubby/lushy men who don't work out for deep kissing and sensual oral action. Rustic-looking A+ not into gay scene, drugs, smoking ok. 7424

In Your Lap
Sexy boy 31, slim build, seeks big brother to sit me in his lap, jack me off slowly, while looking into my eyes, make me squirt. You're in control. 7523

Cocksucker On Call
Excellent cocksucker ready for big cocks that need draining on a reg. basis. Me: 5'8", 150 You: taller than me, hung and horny. 7524

East Bay White Bottom
Horny for a Black or Latino top to service. I'm 6', 155 b/r/b HIV-. Like to suck, fuck & rim. U/C? Would like to dock. 7525

Like Get Fucked Like To Suck
GWM 52 170 5'11" n/s, n/d, like to suck & get fucked and play around. Age and race no factor also help. Please call. 7526

You Have 10 Minutes...
To drain Oakland's blackest, juiciest, sweetest love gun. No beginners, beepers, beads/goates (they scratch). All races and ages welcome. Experts only please. Thanks. 7528

Slender Or Small Men 18-35
Wanted by 54yo/masseur who enjoys massaging lean or small men. Free prof, licensed one hour Swedish massage with oil or lotion. Haight/panhandle area. 7529

I Want An Asian Bottom
ISO Asian ass to rim & fuck- you will be pleased. GWM 35 good looks & knows how to use his cock. 7530

Cute Husky Bi Boy
Gd/ht 6'11" W 5'9", 180 b/r/b, 7" w/big, beefy muscular legs+ butt, cute face & long, hot tongue seeks gay/bi WM for long oral sessions. Mon/Thurs. days best. 7531

Blow Job For Hot Jocks
Oral service performed on your tool by cute WM 30. U are 18-35, in good shape, uncult, white, cocky, masculine. No reciprocation. 7532

Foreigner- Bottom- Wanted
Bi healthy top man 53, 200, 5'9" sincere very clean looking for healthy HIV- bottom man for a good time, anytime. Oral ok. East Bay. 7533

Financial District
Healthy, congenial, in-shape mid-aged guy; ultra-discreet, slim, balding with dark beard; provides efficient, courteous oral service in your office after work. 7534

Jack Butt
40s, 6' 180# hunky East Bay white bottom seeks Black/Latino muscle top studs. I'm hungry and eager for long, hard pounding. Your buddies serviced too. 7535

I'll Blow Your Mind
And your big juicy cock. Lay back & enjoy the best from expert cocksucker. I'm in-shape, 57, 5'11", 170, hairy and always ready. You be trim, well-hung & under 45. 7536

Seeking Hungry Cocksucking Pig
In-shape, nice looking, muscular GWM. Looking for hungry cocksucking pig who likes to eat ass and into serious ass play. Must be fit, nice looking, 25-35 and loves to party. 7537

Cocksucker Takes It
Hot lips, tongue sucks u cut WM w/big thick cocks n balls kick back for complete satisfaction. 7538

Uncut, Mexican Or Latin Studs
21-45 wanted by tattooed white boy, 38, bottom 9" who likes to suck & lick foreskin. My place or yours? 7539

Erotic Body Work For Asians
Slim GWM provides total pleasure body rub for fit Asians. Tell me what you want. 7540

Ass Massage-Erotic Spanking
I want to look at, touch, squeeze, massage, tickle, probe, spank & screw your butt. Me: attrax, GWM, 46, 6'5", 250lbs. brown hair/ mustache, hairy chest/ stomach. You: attractive GWM/white, Asian, Latin, slim, smooth/ moderate body hair. 7541

Cocksucker Alert!!!
This big-dicked dad wants to be serviced on a regular basis. I'm 58, 5'11", 168, trim, athletic, and hung big. Ub trim, under 40 and have a hungry mouth or hole. 7549

Tell Me To Get On My Knees & Suck
Yes sir! 34 good looking bottom boy submissive & open minded, looking for dominant verbal guys: my age or younger. Roleplay, groups Hispanic or hung cow-boys a plus. 7520

Toned Blond Runner
8yo/ht 6'11" W 5'9", 150, b/r/g, HIV-, mostly bottom. ISO in-shape tops 30-45, any race. Muscular/attrax. rock all pluses. Open to possibilities from LTR to just (safe) fun. No sub, abuse or dishonesty or flakes, please. 7521

Tight Asian Bottom Insatiable
5'9" 150lbs, b/r/b clean shaven very cute lks 30's deep throat tight deep ass, seeks tops only. Any race who are at least 8" d free ll smoke non drinker. Love all but pain. East Bay or Bay Area Blacks welcome most. 7522

Seek Top On Bottom's
49 old seek white man only. Like to go out on dates. Love-sex. I am Black and I am bi. 7718

ISO Suckees Who Shoot Big Loads
Ideal: Straights, repeaters. 8 1/2+ /rock hard/uncut! Maybe: rimming/drinking piss/savory cheese. Nein: baseball caps/ skateboards/ facial hair/ chitchat gay camp/cat. 7523

Just Shut Up And Ride
WM, 34, 5'10" 200lbs. blond/ blue muscle-48" ch 32" w 18" arms- wants good looking masculine men to pump/ get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off- anytime. 7524

ISO Anglo Males Over 18yrs.Old
Straight bi or gay, serious head practice till we get it right. 7525

Long Hot Sessions
Vers. well built, 5'11" hung big. Needs well built men (20's-30's), hairy with cut cock. Want long, hot sessions to eat, fuck, suck, get fucked. 7526

Free Massage For Athletes & B.B.
Great massage given by a very hirsute, husky, middle aged prof. Very discreet. 7527

8 Big Inches Seeks Relief!
If you are a friendly bottom who wants to be filled by a handsome goatee, in-shape blond top, your my guy. Let's get my B inches in you. 7528

Sexy GAK Seeks GWM Playmates
GAM, 31, 5'10", 150lbs, athletic, boy-nest-doe seeks WM (21-35) for soft kisses, hard embraces, and wild sex! Blondes a plus. 7529

In Need Of Diaper Degradation!
6'3", 30yo, handsome ISO serious degradation. In need of long spankings while wearing dirty diapers. Tie me down, feed me x-lax, or give me enemas. This big sissy needs it! 7530

XXX
Looking for a sexy, unusual, passionate, open individual for erotic times together. Me: 31, thin and not much into the scene. 7531

Latin Boyfriend
Attractive, 40yr, old blue eyed, HIV-, bisexual, 6'1", mustache, intelligent, endowed. Not into bars. Into male bonding. 7532

Need Temporary husband?
Cute, sweet, sexy, blond, bear 5'8" 160lbs. for sex friends. Available, now call me! 7533

Indoor/ Outdoor Slave
Meticulous Master (all, slim, fit, hot, 45) seeks submissive servant for ongoing garden work and domestic, sexual service. Serious replies only. Will train. 7716

Hey, Faggot
Strip naked and get on your knees, cocksucker, verbal abuse, humiliation and safe orders to follow for masculine slender bodied guys 18-39 by slim WM 42 with 7 cut inches. 7717

Submissive Boy To Service You!
Need a dominant, forceful man to make me suck his cock & fuck my mouth! Also like getting fucked, spanked, slapped around, verbal abuse, leather, uniforms, role playing, toys, etc. 7719

Playful Sexbuddy Wanted
GWM, 35, 6'1", 190lbs. Handsome, masculine, gym goer with big heart and quick wit seeks vers. top for long sessions. We're creative, neg. hung. Italian, Irish, 69 A+ 7720

Cock Slave Wanted
I want a cock slave who will suck my dick for hours/days. Also into fucking, fi, ws, bondage, etc. Have sling, bondage pants, etc. Take care of my dick, I'll take care of your needs. 7722

Wanted: Asian Or Latin For Fun
Are you 30-45, in good shape, interested in early morning or lunchtime hot sex sessions and friendship w/ healthy. GWM, 45, 5'8", 145. No LTR. SF only. 7723

Not A Pornstar
Like everyone else in these ads. Just average looking bear like WLM bottom. Looking for Asian/Pacific Islander top. Willing to try everything. 6'3" 280lbs of real man. 7724

Buzz Your Ad #7136
Yeah, I would really love to have you shave it all off from head to toe, body, balls, crotch etc. Me: GWM tattoos. Let's connect. 7736

Showoff In Sonoma County?
Slender, 18-35? I'd love to videotape you jacking off. No commercial, recreational. Your place or mine, daytime only. Me: middle-aged, nice looking, fun, healthy, generous. 7725

A1 Oral Service- Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV- 7726

Looking For Hung JO Addict
Use my face for target practice. Straight mature WM wants to watch you jo up close se/ feel you. Hot come splatter my face. Multi-shooter a real plus. 7727

I Want Pussy!
Boy pussy, that is. Let me pull your pants down, spread your butt cheeks, spit, chew, finger and then fuck your hole, HIV+ in shape only. 7728

Well Hung Aussie Men
& other musc., slim guys get your big cocks & balls sucked by eager cocksucker w/ talented hot mouth & tongue. Nuts about down under studs! 7729

Amateur Stripper Wanted
For a small party. Audience are 4 Asian in their early 30's. You are muscular and like to be touched. Your compensation is 3 hot bus and a blow job. 7730

4Skin 4Play
Big uncut cockshead available for fun and games and more. I am 45, hairy, slim, 5'10", bearded, scholarly. You are a slumpy 20-35. Oral or bottom. 7731

Btm Middleage Wnts Younger Top
Bottom, 50, looks 40, seeking younger top to totally worship head to toes. Me: 5'6", 130, dark hair & eyes, hairy, HIV-. You: hairy, big (esp. biceps). Let's play! 7732

Thick Black Bushes
Let me bury my face in your thick bush while I suck your dick. Me: GWM, 56, 6', 365. You: Latino, Middle-Eastern, or Italian. Very hairy preferred. 7733

Our Turn
I've been looking for Puerto Rican, Latin, Black bottoms who like it wet and natural. Me: Blk, 6'1", 175, goatee, handsome, hung 9. Let me open up you. 7734

Naked Driver Your Ad #7245
Into your scene, would like to be a naked passenger striding my hard cock. Exhibitionist likes to get bare ass. Naked in public. Let's connect. 7735

Palo Alto GWM 40 5'11" 185 Btm
ISO a husky top with average endowment to orally satisfy. Ub under 55 & living on the Peninsula. 7721

Pig Bk Bott
Six top dog age verbal top + raunch kink sleaze + uninhibited sex + cock & ball svc. Avail wkend & some eve. 7737

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38yo, 180lb, 5'11", h/wt proportionate in Danville. ISO masculine top/master. S/B 35-50, 5'10"+, 175+ h/wt proportionate, verbal. Hairy chest+ Prefer E/B Area. 7435

Ropes, Cuffs, And More...
Dominate fetishist, 41, 5'8", 155, good looking, seeks masculine, like-minded men, 21-45, for hot, sweaty sessions. Bd, c/bt, it, toys. Safe, sane, trustworthy, discreet. Satisfaction guaranteed. SF/ East Bay. 7635

Butt Eater
Expert rimmer-bol, GWM, 5'11", 155, 37, wants long, intense feeding-lick, suck, eat for right man. I have rim chair. Prefer hairy butt-hole. 7426

I'm A Nasty Top
Hairy-in shape 40's sweaty butt and pits into role playing cops, incest, underwear. Looking for in shape bottoms in a suit + 7427

Dirty Older Man Wanted
Well-endowed uncut BM needs very experienced deep throat expert to drain my balls. Looks unimportant. No beginners, aroma, men of color, no teeth a plus. 7428

Good looking Scat Pig
Handsome lean 33yo with hungry throat, seeks masculine stud with hairy round butt to feed me his long hard logs. 7429

Bondage & Discipline
Fit white jock slave wanted for whipping, c/bt, it, etc. Master is experienced, sane, responsible in East Bay with well-equipped dungeon. Serious only. 7430

Spanking
Hard, safe, bare butt discipline. Hand or paddle. Young top. 7431

Hairy Boy Looking For Daddy
Hot, insatiable bottom, gym-toned 6', 175, 42, hung, beard, buzzed, bald, playful, sincere, nasty. Into butt play, fucking, dildos, fl virgin! 7432

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Queer shorts

◀ Arts cover

Christien G. Tuttle's *Ostranerie* is a parade of Goth-arthouse pretensions, with queens in beds that become coffins, blankets transformed into shrouds, sawed-in-half dolls, and close-ups of mouths chewing up flowers then spitting out a mysterious bile.

More upbeat is Dean Slotar's *The Absolution of Anthony*, which played in last year's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Anthony is a hunky Puerto Rican teenager who makes obscene phone calls — begging strangers and the local priest to "please say you want to fuck me!" — and cruises a butch, presumably straight basketball player. Slotar takes his time with the nuances of Anthony's obsessive behavior, and the surprising responses of Joe, the object of his affection. The film is pleasantly up front about Anthony's activities; there's little guilt here in spite of the presence of a priest. And Desi Arnaz gives his blessing to his emerging queerness with the song "Un Poquito de Tu Amor" lilting in the background.

The most ambitious work in the program is Charles Lofton's scintillating *O Happy Day*. Paralleling the black and gay experience has always been a perilous activity, but Lofton approaches the question dead-on, using clips of Huey Newton's welcome words to bolster the case: "There is nothing to say that a homosexual cannot also be a revolutionary. Maybe a homosexual can be the most revolutionary." Indeed. The film covers considerable ground with great style, brazenly juxtaposing the Edwin Hawkins Singers' "Oh Happy Day" with the image of a naked black man caressing himself. Blaxploitation is hilariously skewed when Lofton fabricates a sexy phone call between Shaft (Richard Roundtree) and his "baby" — Bernard (Reuben Greene) from *The Boys in the Band*. The latter film reappears when "the boys" are seen dancing not to "Heat Wave" as in the film but to "Oh Happy Day," a fabulous sequence that suggests that liberation needn't preclude a (camp) sense of humor. ▼

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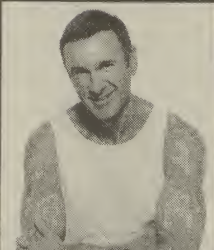
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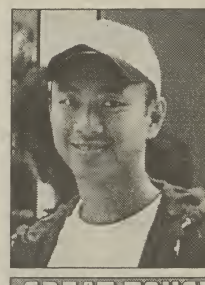
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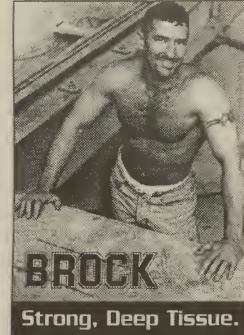
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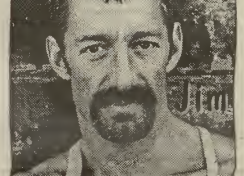


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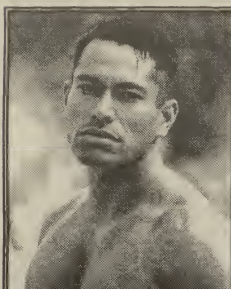
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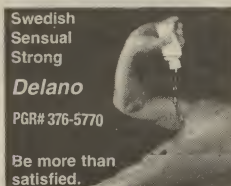


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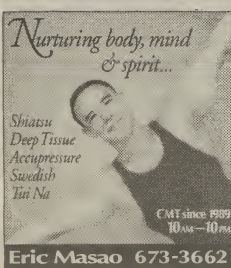
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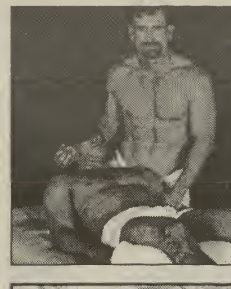
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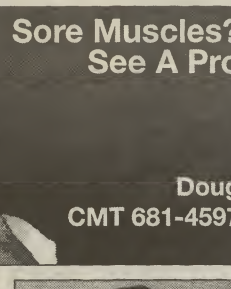
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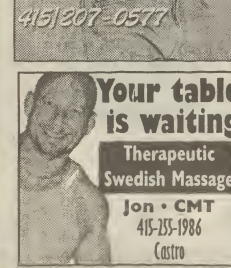
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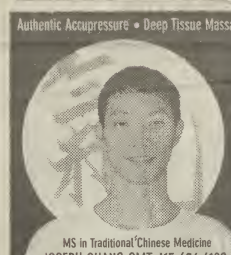
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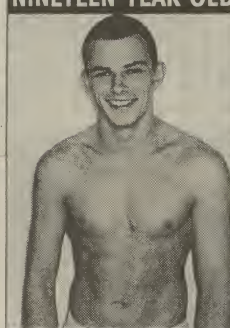
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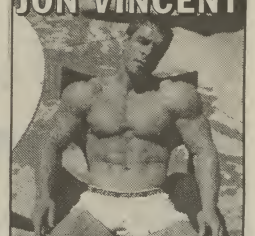
MODELS/ESCORTS



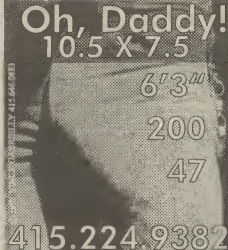
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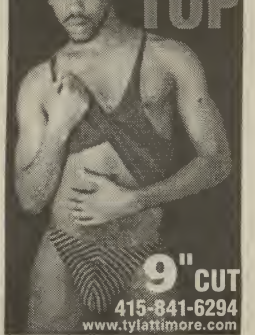
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Masculine, Handsome, Hairy, Hung

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5'9", 150. I'm into body contact

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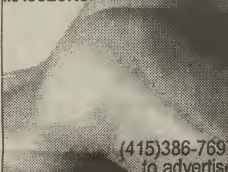
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Devil-hot-face, smooth young body!

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long thick beautiful 9x7 tool.

My touch... natural ecstasy.

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in town for one week only

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smooth, lean, muscular body

very cute, very versatile

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28, 6', 185lbs. 9.5x6cut

Handsome masculine, gifted & nice

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SEXY 20YO EUROPEAN

6' 170# DANCER'S BUILD

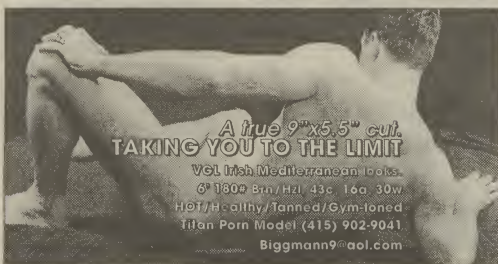
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-long, & slow- my specialty.
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
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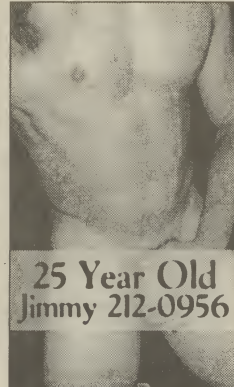
Dominant Leatherman

Bondage,
SM, WS,
CBT,
F/F,
Fetish,
Slave
Training.



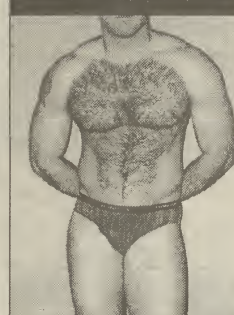
39yo,
SM, WS,
6'1", 195#,
Brown Hair,
flat top,
Blue Eyes,
mustache,
7" Uncut.

Beginners Welcome
Have equipment and playspace.
Scott (415) 790-0902 IN/OUT
<http://www.netcom.com/~puddies/liacott/index.htm>

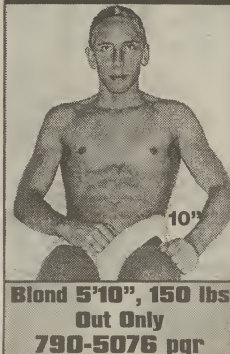


25 Year Old
Jimmy 212-0956

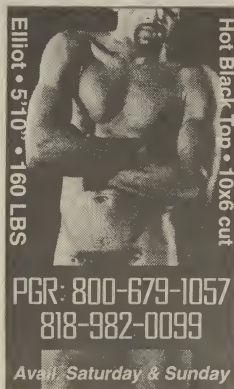
BIG FUN 6'2" 230#
CORY 208-5496



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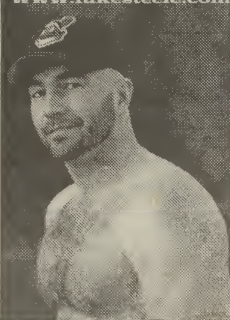


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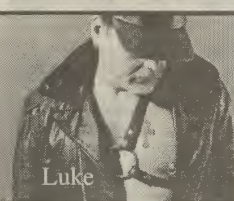


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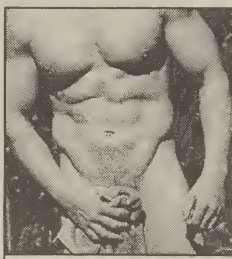
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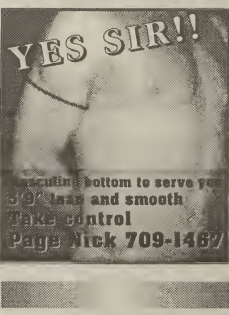
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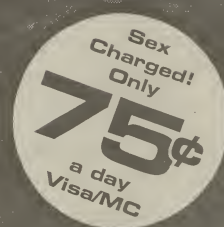
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